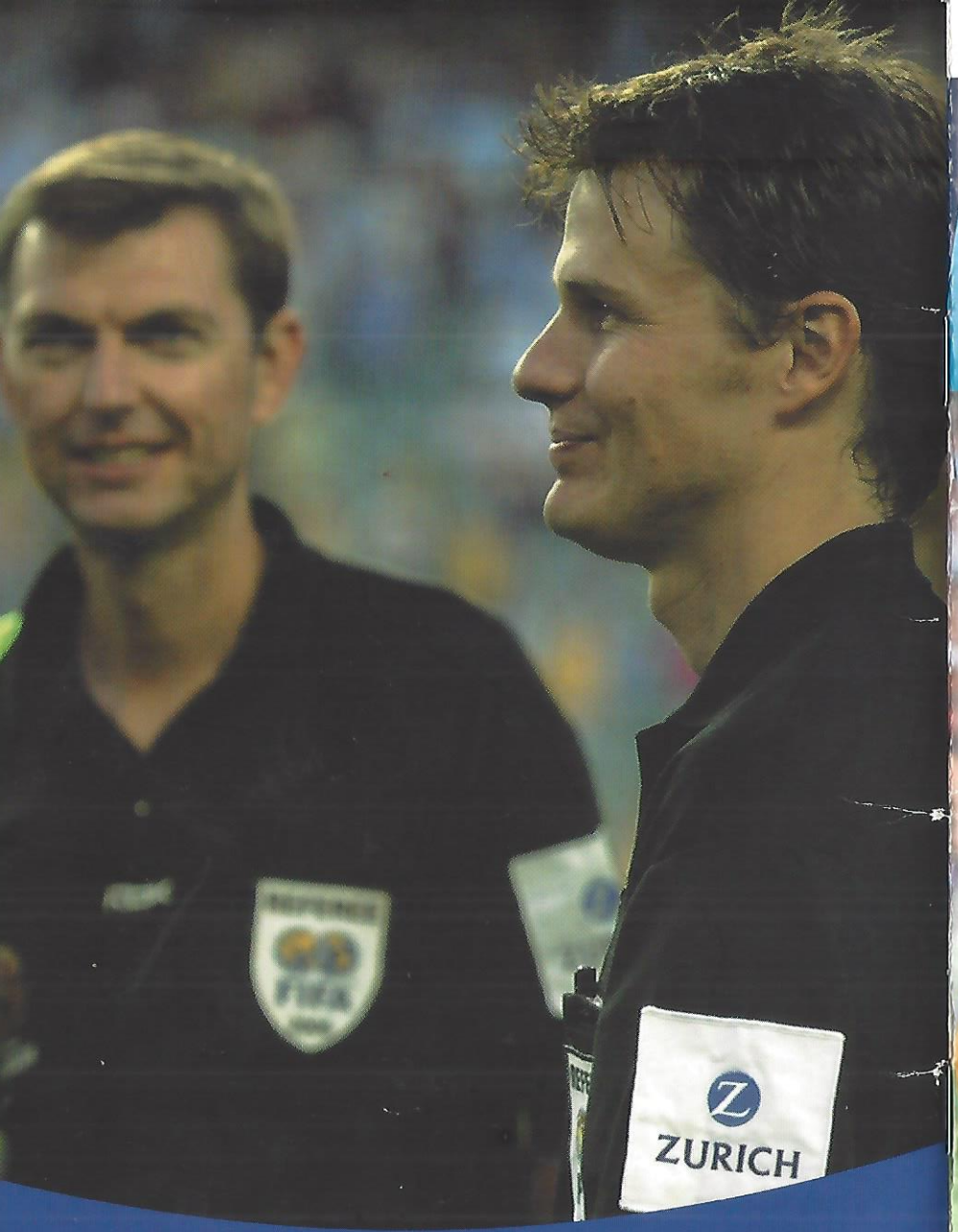

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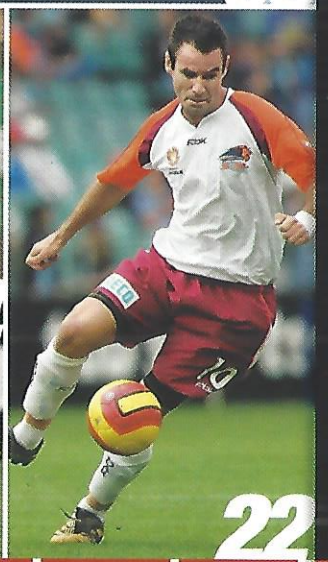
THE Full 90



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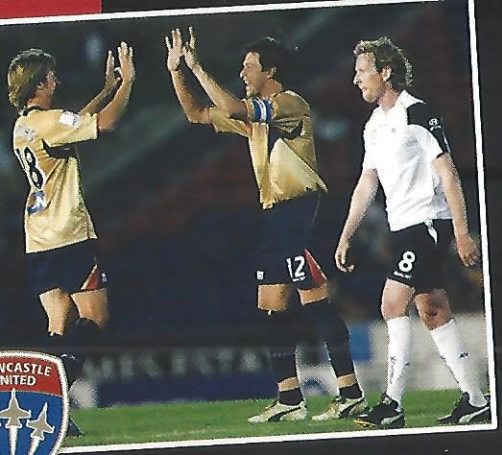


JETS 3 KNIGHTS 0

With the Kiwis only finding the net once all season and the Jets struggling to do much better, a goal frenzy was unlikely in this battle of the bottom, despite Newcastle's comedy defence.

Even when the Jets got behind the Kiwi backline and beat the 'keeper, they still couldn't score, thanks to a braveheart tackle from Darren Bazeley.

But it all came together for the Jets late in the second half when the excellent Nick Carle flighted in a perfect corner, met by the head of Jade North for their first.

Stuart Musialik sealed the win four minutes from time with a cracker and Milton Rodriguez did brilliantly for the third. Newcastle could be back at last!

AST ACT

s the win of season lewcastle caretaker ch Gary Egmond.

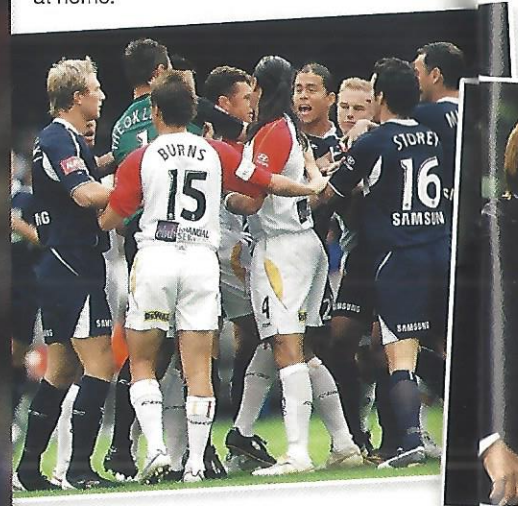
VICTORY 0 UNITED 1

Well, who would have thought it? Adelaide have improved dramatically since the beginning of the season but you would have had the house on Victory maintaining its unbeaten record at home.

The bruising battle certainly looked like it would challenge Melbourne's 100 per cent win and wreck their chances of setting a Hyundai A-League eight wins in a row record.

Neither side looked like conceding in an intense and entertaining match. Greg Owens had other ideas though... and seven minutes from time, took his chance and rippled the back of the net beautifully.

Shell-shocked Victory tried their best to level the scores, but there wasn't enough time to wear down United's defence.



GLORY 1 ROAR 2

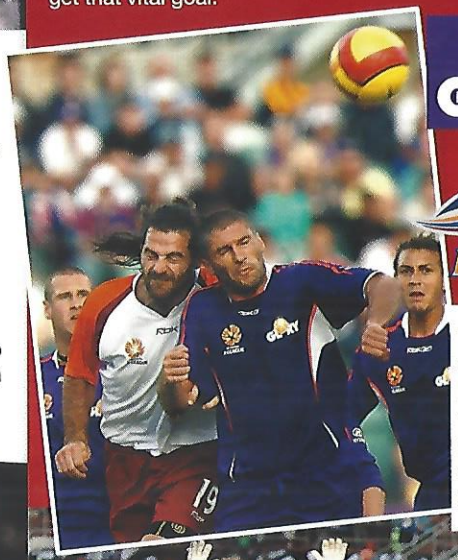
Revitalised Perth must have been hopeful of at least a share of the points but Roar were simply too strong.

With Roar still rotating their players, it was a bungle by young 'keeper Tom Willis that gave Perth an early lead via Stuart Young after just two minutes.

Ante Milicic levelled the scores 12 minutes later and Dario Vidovic then put the visitors ahead early in the second half.

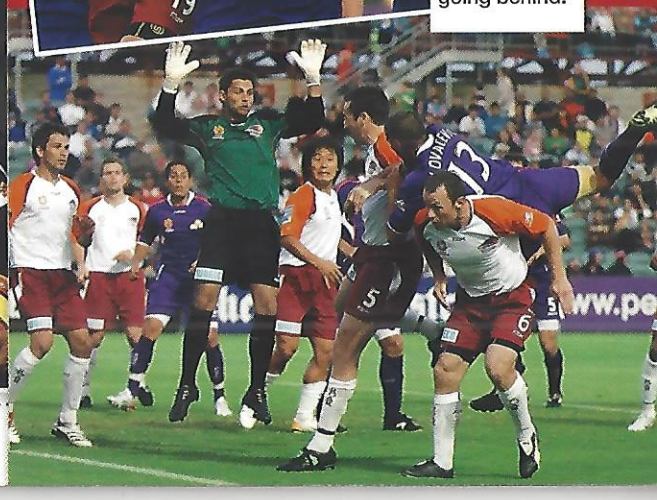
Perth still looked good for a draw though and were denied a penalty despite defender Andrew Packer's handball in the box.

But Roar also had their chances, including an amazing Seo long-range chip which hit the woodwork. Glory threw everything at them in the dying minutes but just couldn't get that vital goal.



FAST FACT

That was Roar's first-ever win after going behind.



MARINERS 3 SYDNEY 1

You know the famous pic of Terry Butcher dripping with blood? It looked like we were going to see something similar again up at Gosford.

He very nearly popped a vein on the sidelines, screaming at his team and at the officials. And god only knows what went on at half-time.

The paint must have been peeling off the walls in the Sydney FC change rooms with the one of the bollockings of the season dished out for conceding a Paul O'Grady goal so close to the break.

It made no difference though as a double from Damian Mori made fools of the former glamour club in an impressive return to form for the Mariners, smashing Sydney FC comfortably.

AST ACT

e Mariners' was their t at home ce January.

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The round wrap

IS YOUR FAVOURITE TEAM SHAPING UP TO TAKE THE POINTS IN ROUND NINE?

Friday, 20 October
ral Coast Mariners vs Perth Glory
ongue Central Coast Stadium, Gosford

a deserved first victory last , the Mariners ell placed for a o the table. A ver Perth Glory eekend will put al Coast just one outside the top eap-frogging the rom the west process. All will be on where art Petrie lines fter he excelled ide left role eekend. Andre recht and Nik are still out least another eeks.

Perth were unlucky to lose at home last week to the Roar, but now face a difficult trip to Gosford against the quickly improving Mariners. Naum Sekulovski is likely to return from his hamstring strain, offering Ron Smith more natural width to his side.

Form: Central Coast W l w D l
Perth L W w L l

Fact: In their only match in Gosford last season, the Mariners beat the Glory 4-0 – a club record victory.

7pm Saturday, 21 October
Sydney FC vs Melbourne Victory
Aussie Stadium, Sydney

With both teams coming off surprising losses, Sydney risk dropping out of the top four unless they can find a victory against Melbourne. Inconsistency has plagued the reigning Hyundai A-League champions so far, with coach Terry Butcher not yet able to get the best out of his squad. Injured in Gosford last week, attention will centre on Benito Carbone – whether he plays or not.

Ernie Merrick must decide whether to throw Fred into the Cove-fuelled Aussie Stadium cauldron considering his controversial elbow to Mark Milligan's throat last time these teams met. The Brazilian's impact was muted last week after some early physical attention from Adelaide's enforcers. The man who broke Robbie Middleby's collarbone, Adrian Leijer, is back from suspension.

Form: Sydney l D w w D
Melbourne L w W w W

Fact: If Sydney attract a crowd of 28,000 this weekend, their season's average home attendance will rise to above 20,000. This figure though is still more than 6,000 below the Victory's.

5pm Sunday, 22 October
Queensland Roar vs Newcastle Jets
Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane

Roar coach Miron Bleiberg will be glad to have snuck away from Perth with three points after enduring a difficult afternoon last weekend. Back at home his attacking options are the envy of the league, including last week's goal scorers Dario Vidosic and Ante Milicic, top scorer Simon Lynch, regular starter Reinaldo and Yuning Zhang, who returns to contention following his wedding celebrations in China.

Though Newcastle won their first match of the season last week, it was at home against their weakest opponents, the Knights. This weekend will be the real test for caretaker boss Gary Van Egmond in Brisbane against the exhilarating Roar.

Form: Queensland w d l D W
Newcastle W L L d d

Fact: The Roar are the only team yet to concede a goal at home this season.

6.30pm Sunday, 22 October
Adelaide United vs New Zealand Knights
Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide

An imposing Adelaide stole Melbourne's weekly points dosage last week, simultaneously running into premiership contention. A visit from the Knights gives them the best possible opportunity to keep pace with the Victory and the Roar. Fernando is out for at least a few weeks, but Qu's return and Nathan Burns' continuing promise provide John Kosmina with ample alternatives.

Sadly for the Knights, the Hyundai A-League table isn't round. Six straight losses have seen them drop to last place. Highly-rated defender Matt Carbon is still out, along with fellow key man Jonas Salley. New Knight Hamza Mohammed has finally gained transfer clearance, and Paul Nevin will be hoping he is their holy grail.

Form: Adelaide w W L d W
New Zealand l l L L l

Fact: This season Adelaide United have scored more goals than any other team at home – 12 – though their winner last week against Melbourne was just their first away goal.

RM GUIDE

ast five home and away games have been recorded h side. UPPERCASE is home and lowercase is away. mple a team with a record of "l D W d w" means they cently lost away, and previously drew at home, won drew away and won away.

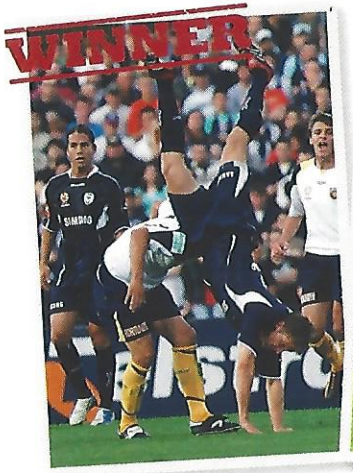
ED! 15 OCTOBER 2006

The action was brilliant on the field, but the setting sun was just as spectacular as Perth Glory took on the Roar. The 2-1 loss to Perth hasn't seen the sun come down on their season just yet... Ron Smith's side is starting to show the promise that so many observers have been expecting. Members Equity Stadium is hoping for more memorable scenes with five more scheduled home games.

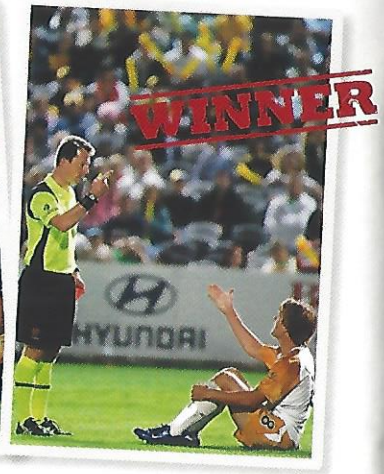
CAPTION CHAMPS

ANKS TO YOU, *THE FULL 90* STAFF HAVE BEEN CRACKIN' UP...

heers to every single entrant who has sent in their kooky captions he past few weeks. *The* snappers find some insane photos on their as after every game... s the players and fans ally bring them to life. ry winner listed here has d themselves a giant s Socceroos team flag... y can drape themselves, ir houses, in Australian next time the team plays – e ready for next year's Cup.
ep your eyes peeled for competitions and prizes... ve a big one coming up!



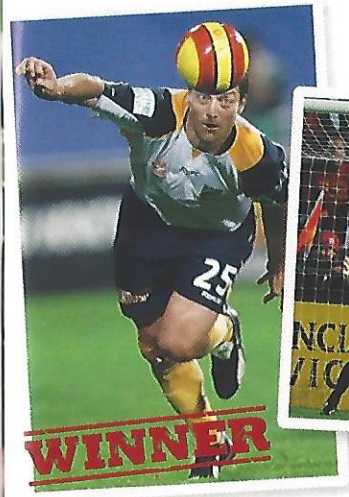
"Sorry mate, I'm just looking for the ref's glasses."
(Danni Thomas)



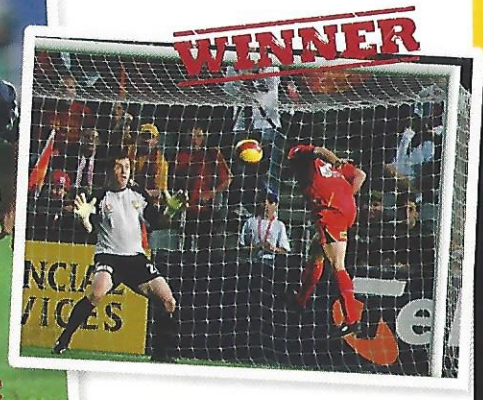
"Please don't make me pull your finger!"
(Rhys Fisher)

THE FULL 90 TIPSTERS ROUND NINE GAMES

w our tips at own peril!	Central Coast vs Perth Glory	Sydney FC vs Melbourne Victory	Queensland Roar vs Newcastle Jets	Adelaide United vs New Zealand	
Phill Massaad *Nerds FC*	Central Coast Mariners	Sydney FC	Queensland Roar	Adelaide United	15
Richie Young *The Full 90*	Central Coast Mariners	Melbourne Victory	Queensland Roar	Adelaide United	14
Mark van Aken *Green and Gold Army*	Central Coast Mariners	Draw	Queensland Roar	Adelaide United	16
Emma Kean *The Full 90*	Draw	Melbourne Victory	Queensland Roar	Adelaide United	17
Andy Jackson *FourFourTwo*	Central Coast Mariners	Draw	Queensland Roar	Adelaide United	15



"I know Lawrie wants me to keep my eye on the ball but..."
(Paul Steele)



"Stick 'em up, I'm here to pinch a goal."
(Nick Bonney)

Clash Tags

There's now even more ways to show support for your favourite team. *Clash Tags*, an online virtual game where you customise characters based on Hyundai A-League teams and challenge opposing fans, has launched.

Players can challenge mates throughout Australia, New Zealand (or even the world) during the course of the season. *Clash Tags* uses satellite imaging, allowing you to defend your club's home ground with your tags, or challenge the away grounds of the opposition – you can even put a tag on the roof of your own house.

To play and learn more about *Clash Tags*, check out www.a-league.com.au where you can register for free. It's definitely not football as you know it!

Did you know?

That Terry Butcher made his debut for England against Australia, in Sydney? He played against Australia at the SCG on 31 May 1980. In his side that day was Frank Lampard Sr. (current Chelsea star Frank Lampard Jr's dad).

Or that Adelaide United coach John Kosmina scored 42 goals in 100 appearances for Australia?

Or that midfielder Damien Brown was the Central Coast Mariners' very first signing?

Or that his Mariners teammate Jamie McMaster has played for the national youth teams of *both* England and Australia?

And that Queensland Roar striker Simon Lynch – who hails from Scotland and has played for Celtic – was actually born in Montreal, Canada?

FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH

"Paul was an idol of mine when I was younger. Just playing alongside him and talking to him at training, and just his communication on the field is a good bonus for me. He's an absolute professional."

Jet Andrew Durante on his teammate this season, Paul Okon.

"I'm beginning to think version two of the Hyundai A-League is so much better than version one."

Ernie Merrick is more than pleased at his team's strong season start.

"The support of sporting entities like Adelaide United and the generosity of players such as Shengqing Qu and Dez Giraldi give the campers a thrill. To be able to meet sporting stars and have a game of soccer is something many kids could only dream of. I think the players saw some of the kids converted into future Adelaide United stars."

Jerie Schmidt a "fun therapist" at Camp Quality was grateful for the Adelaide players' support and help in spreading some cheer!

"It was a good feeling to get my first goal for the club. It's given me that extra bit of confidence now to go out there and get a few more."

Roar and Socceroo winger Spase Dilevski sends out an ominous warning to opposition sides.

BREAKDOWN!

ERE EXACTLY DO WE ALL STAND? LET'S TAKE A LOOK...

AL ANALYSIS

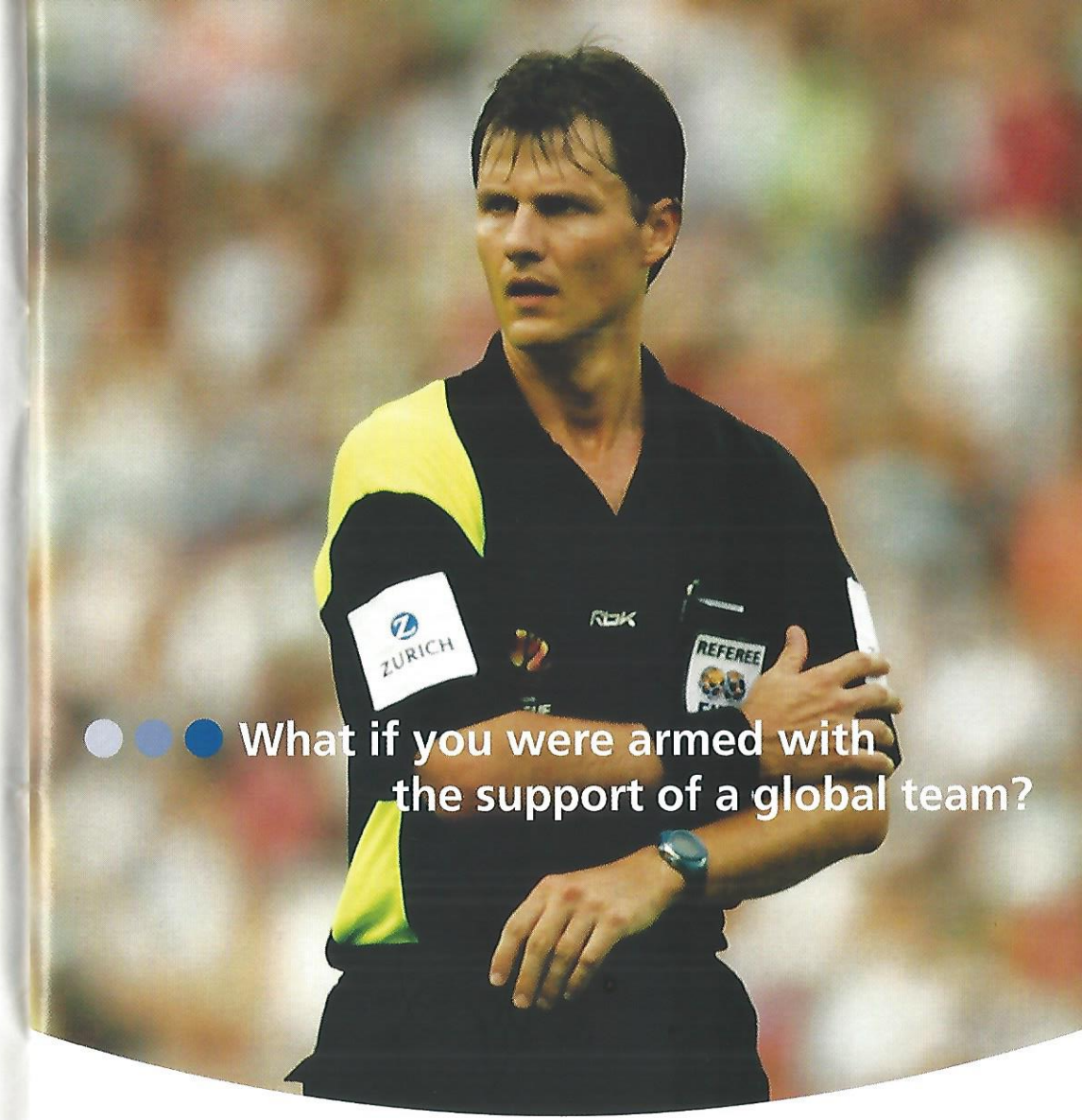
ND	AVERAGE P/G	1ST HALF	2ND HALF	HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM	NIL-ALL DRAWS	TOTAL
	1.5	1	5	6	0	1	6
	3.25	7	6	8	5	0	13
	2.75	7	4	6	5	1	11
	3.25	6	7	11	2	0	13
	1.5	1	5	2	4	1	6
	3.5	5	9	5	9	0	14
	2.25	5	4	5	4	0	9
	2.75	4	7	7	4	0	11
	2.59	36	47	50	33	3	83

RD TALLY

M	YELLOW	RED	TOTAL CARDS	FOULS CONC.
ey FC	16	2	18	114
castle Jets	12	3	15	106
Zealand Knights	13	2	15	117
aide United	14	1	15	121
ourne Victory	15	0	15	108
ral Coast Mariners	13	0	13	132
ensland Roar	13	0	13	106
n Glory	8	0	8	89
AL	104	8	112	893

DDER

	TEAM	OVERALL						DIFF.	PTS.
		Pd	W	D	L	F	A		
	Melbourne Victory	8	7	0	1	17	5	12	21
	Queensland Roar	8	4	3	1	15	8	7	15
	Adelaide United	8	4	1	3	13	9	4	13
	Sydney FC	8	3	3	2	13	11	2	12
	Perth Glory	8	3	1	4	9	11	-2	10
	Central Coast Mariners	8	2	2	4	6	9	-3	8
	Newcastle Jets	8	1	3	4	9	16	-7	6
	New Zealand Knights	8	1	1	6	1	14	-13	4



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caption!

Sasa Ognenovski and Stuart Young are having a good ol' chinwag with Ben Williams, but what is being said? Send captions to fans@haymarketmedia.com.au for your chance at a prize!

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S AND TRICKS

ALL CONTROL PART 2

all control is not just about working your left and right foot. You might receive a high-flying which you will need to control on thigh or even your chest.
e need to use every part of our within the laws of the game ands) to gain control of the ball give ourselves a better chance aking a great pass, dribble or on goal.
e best way to develop ball control our own is by juggling. Unlike street rmers and circus acts, football ing is done by using all parts of ody apart from the hands (feet, s, chest and head) to keep all off the ground.

CHEST CUSHIONING

- Take a wide stance for balance.
- Lean backwards as the ball reaches your chest – this will cushion the ball.
- As it drops down in front of you, get your foot on the ball as quickly as possible to gain control.

THIGH CUSHIONING

- The upper part of your leg should be almost parallel with the ground.
- Pull your leg down and back as the ball makes contact. This will slow down the ball's pace and should leave it in front of you.

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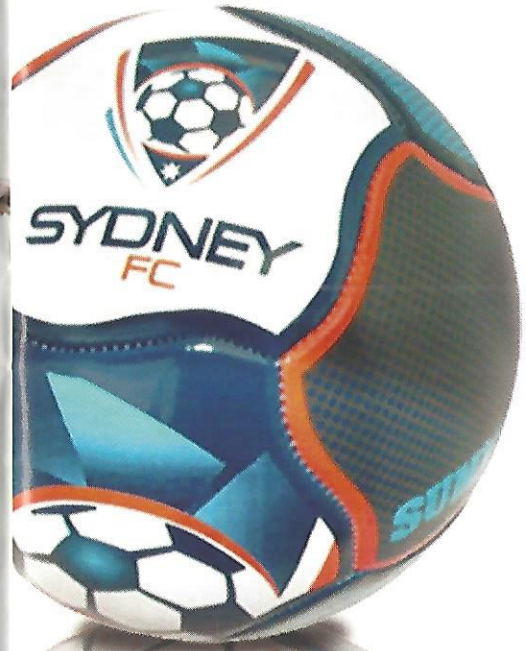

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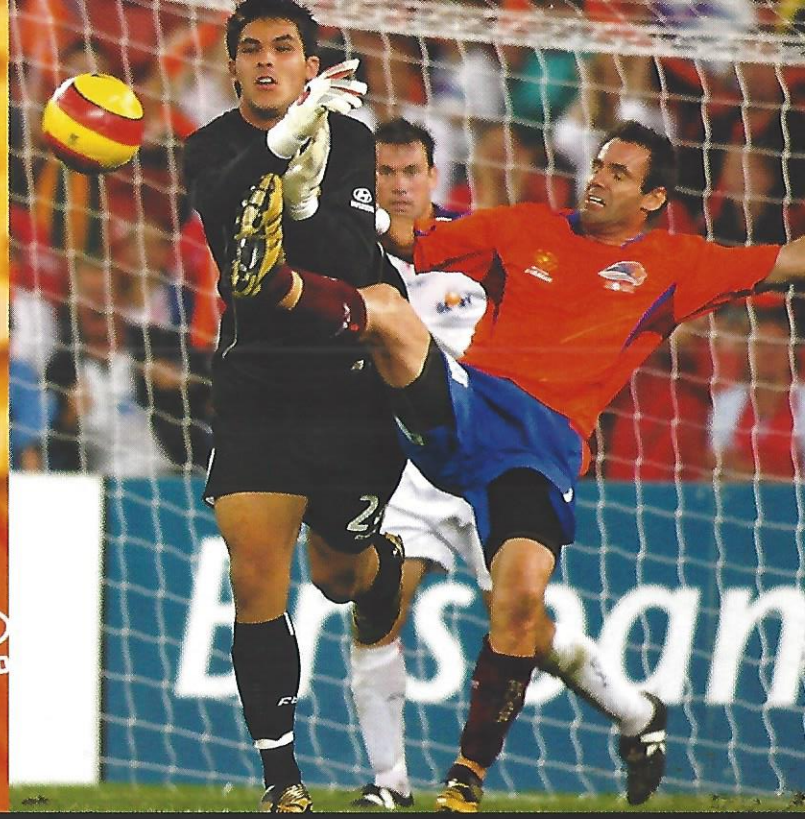

ANTE MILICIC NEWCASTLE

T ON YOUR LIFE. BUT AS **ANTE MILICIC** LINES UP FOR
E SECOND TIME AGAINST HIS OLD CLUB, HE DOES WANT
MAKE SURE IT'S HIS NEW SIDE THAT BAGS THE THREE
NTS / **PAUL HANSFORD**

nte Milicic is, by anyone's definition, one of the most experienced players in yundai A-League. In such h new league, this fact is be scoffed at. Queensland s younger charges will gain d benefit from watching this oned pro.

icic has not just scored in stadiums across Australia – he's also played up front for the Qantas Socceroos and graced playing fields in both Holland and Malaysia.

This weekend, his new club hosts his old one… so *The Full 90* got the inside word on not only taking on old teammates... but friends as well.

Before you played Newcastle in round two you said that if the crowd booed you, it would be a sign of respect. How was it that night at EnergyAustralia Stadium?

Yeah I got a little bit of a boo but to tell you the truth I thought there'd be more numbers because it was their first home game of the season. I thought I'd cop a fair bit of stick but at the end of the day I was happy with my own game and happy we got the three points.

And it was good to be back in Newcastle because I really loved living there and I miss certain parts of living there. And the boys especially, I'm still in touch with a few of them. I really miss that side of Newcastle so it was a good win for us that day and I was happy.

A lot of pros will give you the stock answer that 'every game is the same' – but *is* it a bit special? Do you approach a game like this one differently?

You know what… that's a pretty hard question. If you've played for the club for a longer amount of time and had a successful season there, like if you'd won a championship or qualified for Asia or if I'd stayed there for three years... but at the end of the day I played 20 games for them. Off the park there were some issues that led to my departure, I didn't really have a strong feeling there. Like I said, I had a stronger feeling toward the city of Newcastle and the boys… because a lot of the boys I'd played with before Newcastle.

Who were the main guys there that you hung out with?

I played with Labinot Haliti at Olympic and also [Andrew] Durante who was with me at Olympic and Parramatta – they were probably the main two. But I got along with all the boys. It's a bit harder when you're one of the older ones... you don't really socialise too much with the younger boys. I'm not the one who goes out after a game for a drink. A few of the older boys and Jade North as well… I played with in the Qantas Socceroos as well.

That's why the Hyundai A-League is so interesting for me. In any game I've got a good friend in the other team so it makes it more interesting for me even when I watch the games.

How are you enjoying being in Queensland?

It's actually the first time I've moved interstate to play in the Australian league. And look, with no disrespect to the other states I always knew just by coming here and speaking to people that Brisbane is very livable and with having a young family that's another reason I thought I'd make the decision. If you can't be happy with this weather and

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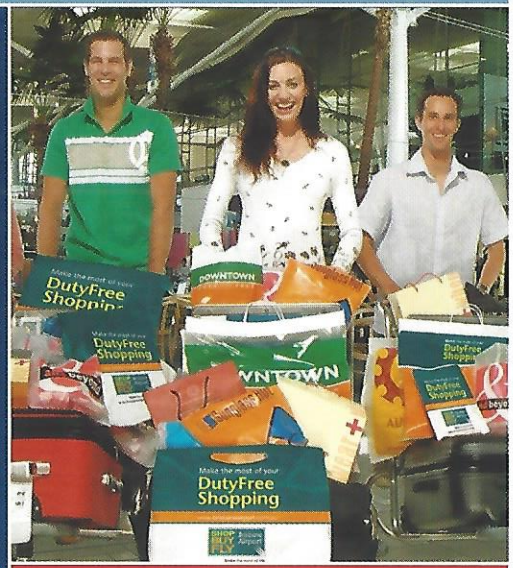

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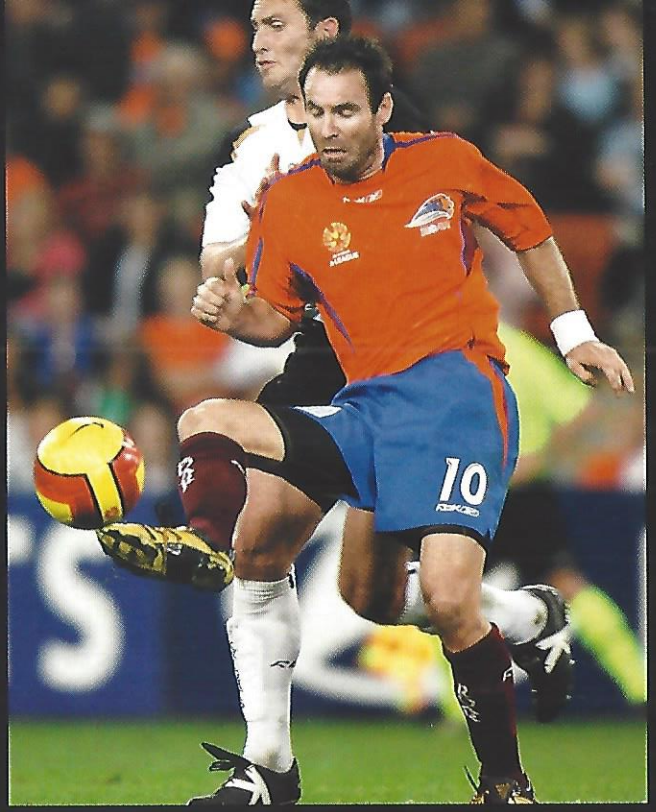


Gold Coast 45 minutes down the road then there's something wrong with you!

Outside of football it's a great place to live and it's another reason that it made me want to come here. And the bonus of that is the football club and the club is just run very well. It gives you the chance to focus on playing. Everything else is looked after and that is important for a player at my age.

As a striker it must be great to come to a team like Miron's who is known to like an attacking side...

Of course! They did it last year as well. If I'm not starting up front or playing as an attacking midfielder, then when you're on the bench you get a bit of game time so you always get a bit of action.

With a few other teams, I see how they set up their stall before a game and sometimes I think, "God I would hate to be a striker in those teams!" Honestly! How'd they used to call it? It's like a one-man band up front! I understand every now and then you've got to do it to get a result but the way I like to play my football, and the main thing at my age, is to turn up and enjoy training and games. When you're playing attacking football you enjoy it, so that's what helps.

The team looks really on song when everything is working right...

It looks exciting. We're still towards the start so we shouldn't get too carried away but the early indications are there that there's a lot of potential for us to score and create a lot of chances this season. I think Miron's got a good mix of experience and youth and pace and height and whatever else... he seems to have hit the nail on the head I suppose you can say.

If we can keep up this form it'll be encouraging. At the end of the day it's all revolving around making the top four so if the strikers and midfielders are doing their job, because the defence looks to be fairly solid, then we're a good chance of fulfilling our potential.

Are you more of a leader in the side?

Probably. With my experience overseas and the fact I've played in a lot bigger games than most of the young boys... if the young boys can see what I've done in the game and follow a path and just pick up a few good habits then that is good for the future. When you're a young kid it's not just enough to have talent, you need more than that. We've brought in a few other good pros as well and I think the experience is very important. In this game you can always learn. And like I say, if the young boys can stay switched on and progress – not just in the games but at training – it's better for themselves and for the club. I think at every successful team you see a couple of pros which is good for the players.

I'd still like to play a part in the future of Queensland. Without getting carried away if we can cement a spot in the top four... it's free to dream. If in December and January an Asian Cup spot looks possible then that'd be great but we can't get too far ahead of ourselves just yet. There are a lot of other good teams in this comp. ■

FINE 90

RON BLEIBERG BROUGHT **SIMON LYNCH** TO
E ROAR WITH ONE OBJECTIVE IN MIND: HE
EDED GOALS. TO DATE, LYNCH HAS NETTED
REE, AND LOOKS DANGEROUS EVERY TIME HE
S THE BALL. *THE FULL 90* THOUGHT IT WAS DUE
R ANOTHER CHAT... / **PAUL HANSFORD**

You've now got a few games under your belt, how are you enjoying it?

and foremost it has been a lot easier
e to come to a country where they
k English. It's been so much easier
e. I look at people like Hyuk-Su and
ldo who don't speak the language
ll and think it must be very hard for
to settle in.
e come in and straight away I've
anter with the boys and even
h they couldn't understand me
couple of months at least I could
rstand them! I've been getting a
stick for my accent but it's been
od. The boys have been making
y easy for me to settle in here
ny fiancé is over with me and she
it here. The weather is brilliant in
nsland – I'm just dreading how
is going to get in the summer.

t's the team spirit like?

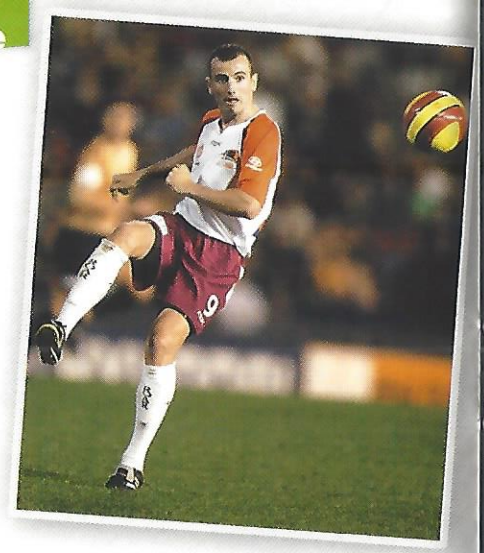
some of the teams I've been with
past... I don't know if it is to do
igger gaps in wages. For example
I was at Celtic there's a player
s on 40 grand a week and then
er lad who's on 500 pounds – it's
gulf and because of that there's
sometimes not such a close bond
and they can't relate to each other.

But certainly since I've come here there's no big time charlies in the team, everyone mucks in and we all get smashed for the gear we're wearing and stuff like that. Even the young players like Dario [Vidosic] are very much a part of the team and I think it's a good place to be as a youngster because there are some very good role models at the club to learn from.

How have you found the playing standard, after your experiences overseas?

I've played in the Scottish Premier League in Scotland and the Championship in England and League One and it's very hard for me to tell. I don't think you'd ever really be able to tell until the Roar went over to play a certain team. That would be the only way you could gauge it. But certainly it compares very favourably to anything I've played in before.

Certainly on the sports science side of things, that's what I've noticed most. The ice baths and the protein shakes and the preparation before and after matches... everything is very



culous. That's as good as ing I've seen back home.

ch of your teammates ou think have stood the most?

e are so many players I've impressed with in the team. [McCloughan] is a real r on and off the park and Stuart McLaren they're two ard men at the back. As for f the future I think Dario is yer with bags of ability. I hat the minute I saw him He's got great technique just hope he learns his the right way and isn't ed into things too early use I think he could me a really good player ueensland and Australia.

What are your aspirations for playing for Scotland again?

I think with Terry Butcher coming over here from Motherwell and myself and Grant Brebner playing, there's a little more focus in Scotland about us and the Australian league. A lot of people have been taking notice of it and when they see the sort of crowds we've been getting... I've certainly not given up hope of playing for Scotland but at the present it's not one of my top priorities.

I played with James McFadden and Darren Fletcher in the U-21s... It's all about where you're at at a certain time but I do think it would be hard to get a call-up to the national team when I'm in Australia, if I'm being realistic. But at the same time I'm out here for two years and undoubtedly I'm going to develop as a footballer so I'll just have to see how things go.

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WE HAVE TO BE PATIENT

TERRY BUTCHER KNOWS THAT THERE IS A LOT MORE TO COME THIS SEASON

Welcome once again to Aussie Stadium for what will be, I'm sure, a mouth-watering clash against the Victory.

Many of you will have been eagerly awaiting this match-up for some time now, and the players can't wait to get started. Our last game at this venue only brought one point, versus the Queensland Roar, and a poor performance as well. I can understand your frustration at the entertainment on view, and I sympathise with you entirely, as we are equally as disappointed at the way we played and failed to break down Miron Bleiberg's men. I could volunteer a few excuses but, quite simply, we did not do enough on the day to collect the three points available.

I did state, at the start of the season, that teams would raise their game against us and that it would not necessarily be pretty stuff, as we have seen. Our opponents fear that, once we get our game going, we have the firepower to rack up a good score, so containment is their main objective. As a team, we have to be more patient and be prepared to take any opportunity that is presented, whilst also playing at a tempo that suits us. The pressure is even greater at home to produce the goods, so patience could be the virtue that wins the game for us today, against the best team in the Hyundai A-League so far.

Ernie Merrick's men have been very impressive this campaign, and deservedly lead the way due to terrific teamwork and excellent finishing. Last week's setback does give hope to the rest of the league, but we must peg back Melbourne's lead through our own displays starting with this evening. It has been a topsy-turvy season so far, with a lot more to come from us all. There is no hiding place now – it is time to respond with action rather than words, and time to repay you for your great support and passion.

Enjoy the game.

Terry Butcher

TERRY BUTCHER
MANAGER

"I DID STATE, AT THE START OF THE SEASON, THAT TEAMS WOULD RAISE THEIR GAMES AGAINST US AND THAT IT WOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE PRETTY..."

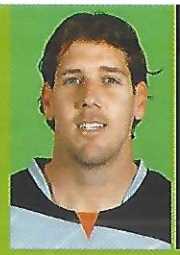
line-up

SYDNEY FC

Clint Bolton

Pos GK **App** 8 **CS** 2
DOB 22 August 1975

A Socceroo, Clint is one of the best 'keepers in the A-League and has also competed in the NSL.



7 Robert Middleby

Pos MF **App** 2 **Goals** 0
DOB 9 August 1975

Fast, direct-running midfielder who is a versatile player for Terry Butcher. Will be looking for a big season.

Iain Fyfe

Pos DF **App** 8 **Goals** 2
DOB 3 April 1982

Called into the Socceroo squad earlier this year, Fyfe is a key defender who has not yet seen his career peak.

8 Ruben Zadkovich

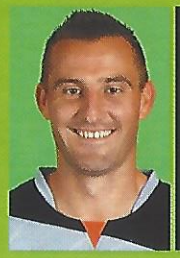
Pos MF **App** 6 **Goals** 1
DOB 23 May 1986

Joined the team mid-season and impressed enough to win a long-term contract. Added spark to the midfield.

Alvin Ceccoli

Pos DF **App** 7 **Goals** 1
DOB 5 August 1974

One of the league's most experienced defenders, Ceccoli was a legend of the NSL and has an eye for goal.



9 David Zdrillic

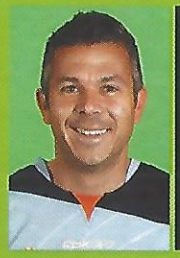
Pos FW **App** 8 **Goals** 1
DOB 13 April 1974

Zdrillic is a hard-working forward who has plenty of international experience. Big and strong, he plays hard.

Mark Rudan

Pos DF **App** 7 **Goals** 1
DOB 27 August 1975

Rudan is a tall and imposing defender who is strong in the air and a solid man marker. A real leader for Sydney FC.



10 Steve Corica

Pos MF **App** 6 **Goals** 1
DOB 24 March 1973

Corica spent years in England and Japan to fine tune his game. A versatile and dangerous midfielder.

Ufuk Talay

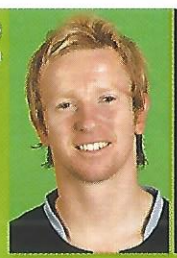
Pos MF **App** 7 **Goals** 0
DOB 26 March 1976

Ufuk won an NSL title before the age of 18 with plenty of experience playing in the tough leagues of Turkey.

11 Sasho Petrovski

Pos FW **App** 7 **Goals** 2
DOB 5 March 1975

One of Sydney's most reliable scorers, he should do even better now with more options from new teammates.



12 David Carney

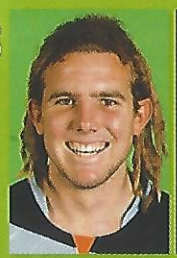
Pos MF **App** 2 **Goals** 0
DOB 30 November 1983

An ex-Everton junior, Carney was a true revelation last season. A tricky player, whom opponents will mark closely.

17 Jacob Timpano

Pos DF **App** – **Goals** –
DOB 3 January 1986

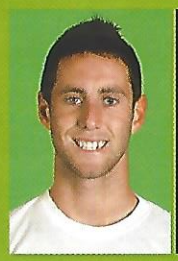
Tall, composed defender was a sensation, staying in the side all season after being given a start in Round 5.



13 Jeremy Brockie

Pos FW **App** 4 **Goals** 0
DOB 7 October 1987

The dreadlocked star was a shining light for the NZ Knights but must now aim for a Sydney FC starting spot.



20 Justin Pasfield

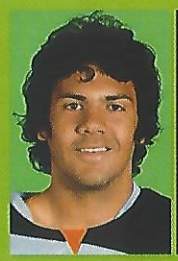
Pos GK **App** – **CS** –
DOB 30 May 1985

Terry Butcher is a known fan of his #2 'keeper. If he gets a chance, Pasfield will make the most of it.

14 Alex Brosque

Pos FW **App** 5 **Goals** 0
DOB 12 Oct 1983

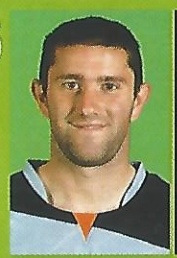
The Roar will miss Brosque. His scoring and play was one of the flashiest, making him a crowd favourite.



21 Nikolai Topor-Stanley

Pos DF **App** 6 **Goals** 0
DOB 11 March 1985

Nikolai has represented Australia at the 2005 FIFA World Youth Championships.



15 Terry McFlynn

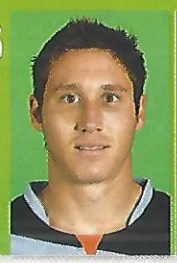
Pos MF **App** 6 **Goals** 0
DOB 27 March 1981

One of Sydney's most important players, appearing in 21 games last season. Combative ball winner.

22 Matthew Bingley

Pos MF **App** 6 **Goals** 0
DOB 16 August 1971

This veteran of 300 plus NSL and Hyundai A-League games brings versatility to ease Sydney's injury crisis.



16 Mark Milligan

Pos DF **App** 6 **Goals** 0
DOB 4 August 1985

Milligan's experience in the World Cup squad will make him a better player in season two. A smart defender.

23 Benito Carbone

Pos FW **App** 3 **Goals** 2
DOB 14 August 1971

Small in stature but a giant talent, Carbone brings EPL and Serie A experience, trickery and a powerful shot.

teams

SYDNEY FC

No.	Name	Position	✓	Goals
1.	Clint Bolton	Goalkeeper		
2.	Iain Fyfe	Defender		
3.	Alvin Ceccoli	Defender		
4.	Mark Rudan	Defender		
6.	Ufuk Talay	Midfielder		
8.	Ruben Zadkovich	Midfielder		
9.	David Zdrillic	Striker		
10.	Steve Corica	Midfielder		
11.	Sasho Petrovski	Striker		
13.	Jeremy Brockie	Striker		
14.	Alex Brosque	Midfielder		
15.	Terry McFlynn	Midfielder		
16.	Mark Milligan	Defender		
17.	Jacob Timpano	Defender		
20.	Justin Pasfield	Goalkeeper		
21.	Nikolai Topor-Stanley	Defender		
22.	Matthew Bingley	Midfielder		
23.	Benito Carbone	Striker		
27.	Joel Thiessen	Midfielder		

MELBOURNE VICTORY

No.	Name	Position	✓	Goals
1.	Michael Theoklitos	Goalkeeper		
2.	Kevin Muscat	Defender		
3.	Daniel Piorkowski	Defender		
4.	Mark Byrnes	Defender		
5.	Geoffrey Claeys	Defender		
6.	Steve Pantelidis	Defender		
7.	Michael Ferrante	Midfielder		
8.	Fred	Striker		
9.	Daniel Allsopp	Striker		
10.	Archie Thomson	Striker		
11.	Vince Lia	Midfielder		
12.	Rodrigo Vargas	Defender		
13.	Kristian Sarkies	Midfielder		
14.	Adrian Caceres	Striker		
15.	Adrian Leijer	Defender		
16.	Simon Storey	Defender		
17.	Grant Brebner	Midfielder		
18.	Alessandro	Defender		
19.	Claudinho	Striker		
20.	Eugene Galekovic	Goalkeeper		

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Ernie Merrick

Captain
Kevin Muscat

TEAM SCORE

Half-time

Full-time

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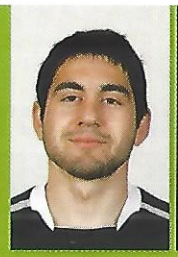
SYDNEY FC VS MELBOURNE VICTORY

Michael Theoklitos

Pos GK **App** 8 **CS** 4
DOB 11 February 1981

A tall shot-stopper, Theoklitos has been a key in Melbourne's brilliant season start.



Steve Pantelidis 6

Pos DF **App** 7 **Goals** 0
DOB 17 August 1983

One of the characters of the team, 'Panta' provides the steel in the midfield, allowing the forwards to do their thing.

Kevin Muscat

Pos DF **App** 8 **Goals** 6
DOB 7 August 1973

A veteran of the game, but as hungry as ever. Muscat is like a brick wall for whichever attackers he faces.

Michael Ferrante 7

Pos MF **App** – **Goals** –
DOB 28 April 1981

Former captain of the West Ham Youth team, Michael's skill and pedigree make him one of Victory's star players.

Daniel Piorkowski

Pos DF **App** 8 **Goals** 0
DOB 12 January 1984

Highly rated right back who will be looking for an injury-free season to re-establish his Socceroos credentials.

Fred 8

Pos FW **App** 5 **Goals** 1
DOB 18 August 1979

One of the highly touted 'Trio from Rio', Fred played 10 seasons in Brazil. Expect some samba flair.

Mark Byrnes

Pos DF **App** – **Goals** –
DOB 8 February 1982

Captain of the Young Socceroos who narrowly lost to Brazil in 1999, Byrnes has experience beyond his years.

Daniel Allsopp 9

Pos FW **App** 8 **Goals** 6
DOB 10 August 1978

Daniel has a wealth of overseas experience and was near ever-present up front for Victory last season.

Geoffrey Claeys

Pos DF **App** – **Goals** –
DOB 5 October 1974

Classy Belgian defender who enjoyed a stint at Feyenoord in Holland. The rock at the back for Victory.

Archie Thompson 10

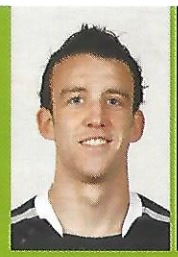
Pos FW **App** 7 **Goals** 2
DOB 23 October 1978

The A-League's flashiest scorer, Archie is a favourite – and not just amongst Victory fans!

Vince Lia 11

Pos MF **App** 3 **Goals** 0
DOB 18 March 1985

A product of South Melbourne, Vince is a pacy midfielder who likes to get up and support the strikers.



Simon Storey 16

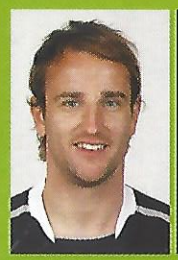
Pos DF **App** 8 **Goals** 0
DOB 5 June 1982

Former U-21 Player of the Year in the VPL can play at the back and in midfield. Holds a degree in physiotherapy.

Rodrigo Vargas 12

Pos DF **App** 8 **Goals** 0
DOB 20 October 1978

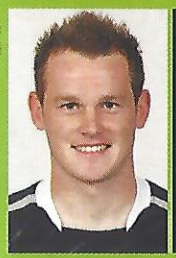
Chilean-born, technically gifted former Melbourne Knight, Vargas signed for the Victory in May.



Grant Brebner 17

Pos MF **App** 7 **Goals** 0
DOB 6 December 1977

Signed from SPL side Dundee United to add strength and substance to the midfield. Ex-Man United youth player.



Kristian Sarkies 13

Pos MF **App** 5 **Goals** 0
DOB 25 October 1986

Sarkies is one of the league's hottest prospects and will be one of the keys to Melbourne's success.

Alessandro 18

Pos DF **App** 5 **Goals** 0
DOB 10 August 1983

Signed from Brazilian side Internacional RS, Alessandro likes to attack down the wings as much as possible.

Adrian Caceres 14

Pos MF **App** 8 **Goals** 1
DOB 10 January 1982

The Argentinian-born midfielder will be looking to build on last year's solid campaign with Perth Glory.

Claudinho 19

Pos FW **App** 5 **Goals** 1
DOB 7 May 1982

The Brazilian striker has played over 100 games in his homeland. Has a powerful left foot and will be hard to handle.

Adrian Leijer 15

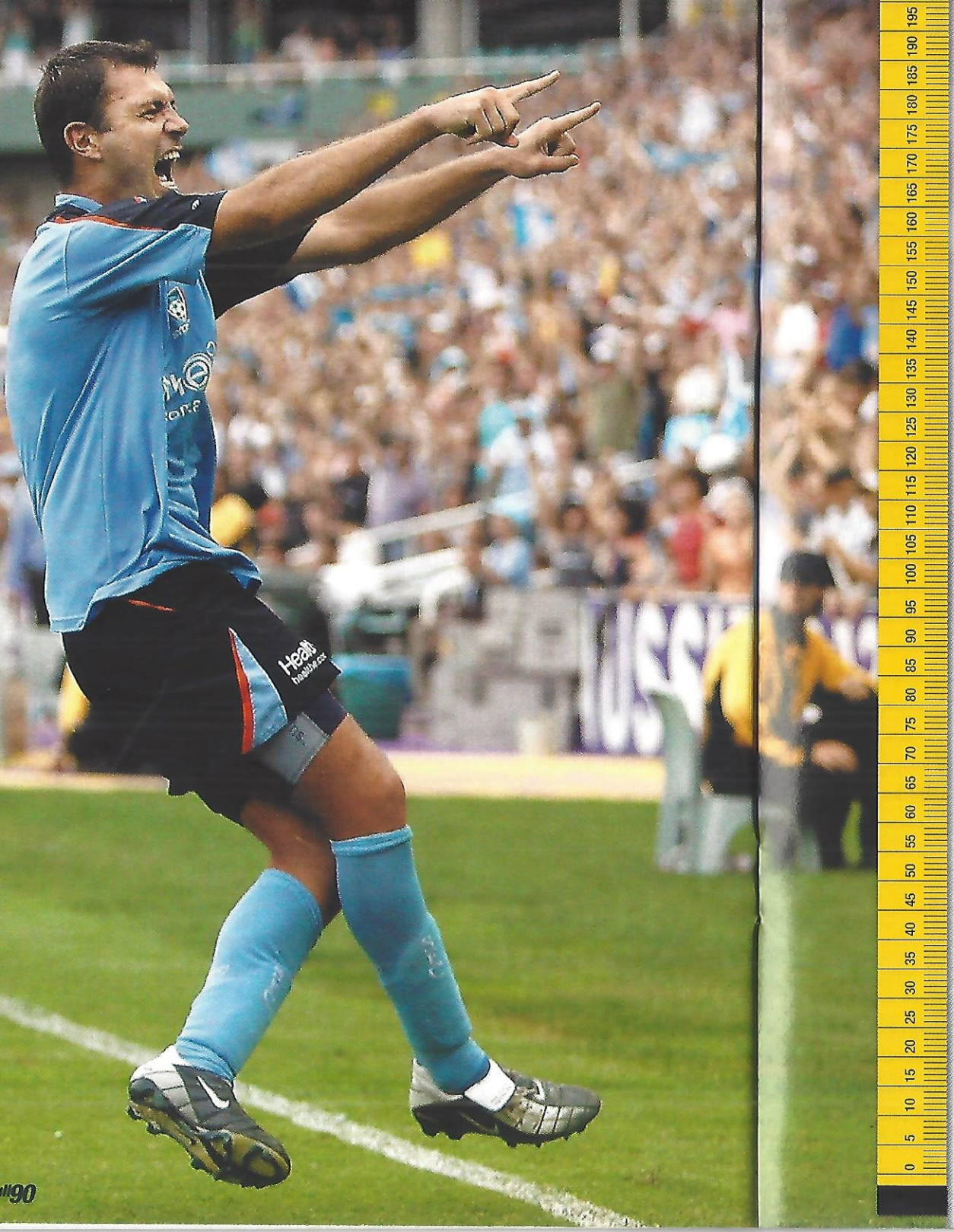
Pos DF **App** 7 **Goals** 0
DOB 25 March 1986

This exciting youngster is so highly rated he trained with the Socceroos in Germany pre-World Cup.

Eugene Galekovic 20

Pos GK **App** – **CS** –
DOB 12 June 1981

One of the country's most talented keepers, Eugene will be patient this season as back-up to Theoklitos.



MARK RUDAN IS A BIG BLUE MAN

CONSIDERING THE EXTRAORDINARY GAME PLAYED OUT IN ROUND TWO, A REVENGE GAME AGAINST MELBOURNE VICTORY IS TANTALIZING FOR SYDNEY FC SKIPPER **MARK RUDAN**... / **RICHIE YOUNG**

As a player, Mark Rudan is the most relaxed he's ever been. But that doesn't mean he doesn't still fire up his troops, especially when there's such high stakes involved like this weekend's game against ladder leaders Melbourne Victory. Rudan is the big leader of the Sydney FC group – a group that he says is far tighter and close than is usually reported.

His physical size helps him dominate areas on the field, and it also translates into the big character he is off it. Being the leader brings big expectations, but Rudan has always had that role. Even when he wasn't playing as regularly last season, his teammates say that his overall contribution was critical in their first successful bid at holding the Hyundai A-League trophy.

With Dwight Yorke's departure, Rudan is now the "sole" captain of the side and he is determined to lead by example with, aptly, big performances. After his red card in Sydney's round two meeting against Melbourne Rudan, as always, is pumped.

How will you prepare for this weekend's big re-match?
Our preparation won't be any different to any other game. As well as they're going at the moment – and full credit to them because they've been sensational – but all we want to do is worry about our own backyard. As long as we prepare in the same manner that we have been in the last few weeks and we have no injuries, then we're confident in ourselves.

Are you expecting the Sydney crowd to turn up in droves to get one back over the crowd that greeted you at the Telstra Dome in round two?
We have heard already that the crowd is going to be huge so we're expecting a bumper crowd. If both teams are doing well then hopefully we can get close to 30,000. Anything around that will be an absolute bonus for us and it's obviously always good to be playing in front of our home fans and the Cove. We're looking forward to it. It's going to be a big game.

How much does the crowd lift the team?
It's massive mate. People often say, 'it's the twelfth man,' and it certainly is. We love playing in front of our home fans and we haven't lost at home in over a year

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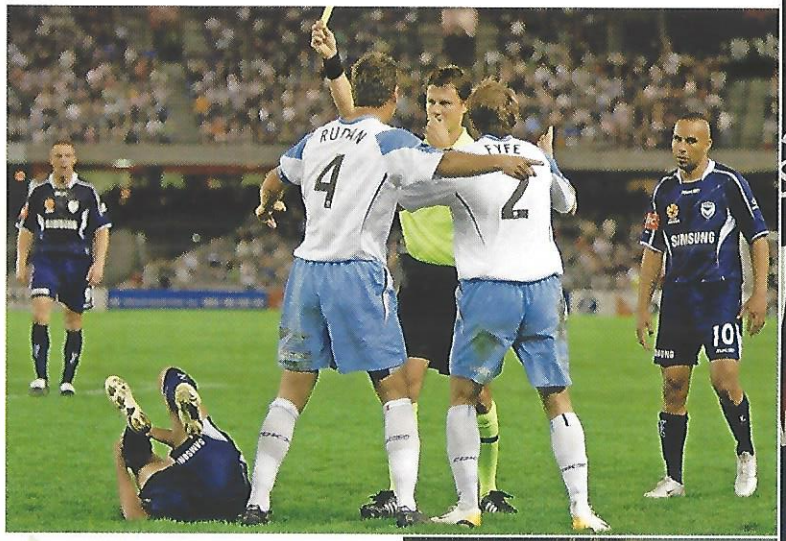
first season Melbourne oper Kevin scat get a ndly, if not *icy* eption from Cove.A true fessional, sky took it n his stride it seemingly ve him to form with n more iration. e's what he l when *The 90* asked about that ... enjoyed it e. All the nes against ney were d in terms tmosphere the football good. I'm ually looking ard to ning back. I k it will be a lly different eption to t I got ing for the sie team e but I'm king forward . It inspires and I've got t of friends play in ney so that's an issue. ing a bit of alry is good, oyed it."



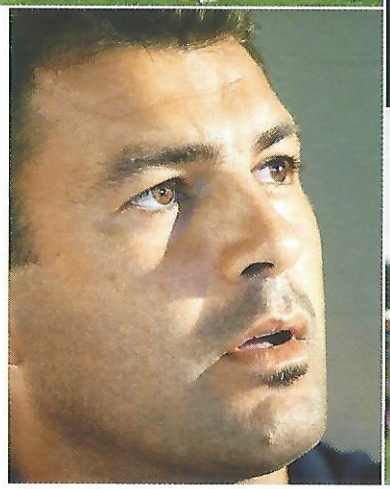
now and we want to continue that. We want the stadium to be our fortress, so to speak. Obviously they've been fantastic through last season and this season.

There must be an extra incentive to beat Melbourne though...

Obviously a lot happened in that game. It was a great game for the spectators but the result wasn't so good for us. In saying that, I thought it was magnificent coming back from 2-0 down. We're just focused on our game plan and it always changes from week to week. If we're on our game we'd obviously like to beat Melbourne but Melbourne aren't the only side we want to beat. The stakes are open as far as we're concerned... they're just another team that we have to go through to win the trophy.

What about your red card from that match... does that give you extra motivation for a big performance?

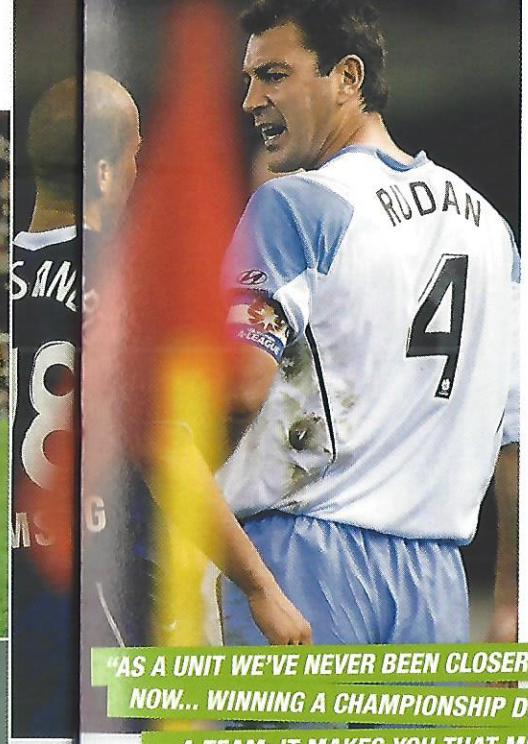
I want to put in a big performance week in, week out. I don't condone what I did in that game. I was obviously disappointed in myself and how I let my teammates down that night but I set myself high standards every week. It will be a special game but I won't be doing anything differently to what I want to do every



week and that's to lead the team and play to the best of my ability. Hopefully I can help instruct the players and make sure everyone is doing their job.

Can we expect to see David Carney in the game?

I'd say it'll be too soon. He's just started training again and he's just doing some bike work and things like that. He's not yet training with the ball because of the contact so I think that will be too early for him. He has been working extremely hard on his fitness... he's been doing all

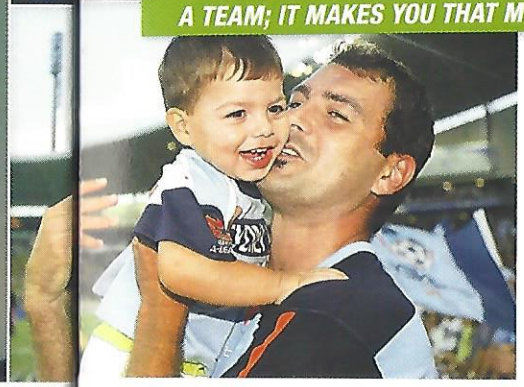


"Sorry. I don't know where the train station is..."

able to retain most of last year's players and that's just fantastic for us.

The win against Adelaide (Sydney beat Adelaide 4-1) made us feel so much better in terms of confidence but we've been great right from the word go because all the boys get on great with one another. We're a lot tighter than we were last year and I think adversity only makes you stronger. Recently we've had the Chairman go and there was Dwight's departure and there were a few injuries and suspensions along the way so to only have lost one game out of six is great. It just goes to show how close we really are.

"AS A UNIT WE'VE NEVER BEEN CLOSER THAN WE ARE NOW... WINNING A CHAMPIONSHIP DOES THAT TO A TEAM; IT MAKES YOU THAT MUCH CLOSER."



Do you think some of the press hyped up those elements of disharmony?

Yeah I think so. The media have always got something that they have to write... There was never any disharmony amongst the players, I can vouch for that and tell you straight away. I don't know... a lot has happened at our club like I said. But through all that, we've kept close and spoken about it. The leaders of the group have spoken to the younger boys and we've just put all of that behind us and have concentrated on training. Training hard and playing well on the weekend is all we can do.

his cross-training work and that's great because it's always good to have a Dave Carney playing in your side.

Has the confidence in the team now returned?

To be brutally honest, the feeling in the camp has been great throughout the whole year. As a unit we've never been closer than we are now and I think that winning the championship does that to a team; it makes you that much closer. You really do make friends for life after winning a championship together and we've been

How are you enjoying the leadership and captaincy?

I was made captain last year as well but through whatever reason, be it injuries or whatever I bided my time on the bench. I worked extremely hard in that time but I suppose, kept up my leadership qualities off the field. This year, it's come around and Terry has given me the captaincy again and that's great. I just want to concentrate on playing well first and foremost, for myself and for the club. I talk to the players and try to lead and I'm really enjoying it. We're in equal second at the moment and things couldn't be better.

The enormous crowd size at Sydney and Melbourne's first match this season was just one of its talking points. By anyone's definition, this was one of the most eventful in Australian football history. There were five goals – including two to Victory striker Danny Allsopp and an unfortunate own-goal to Victory defender Rodrigo Vargas. Referee Mark Shield was kept busy too. Three yellow cards were handed to Sydney players, as well as Mark Rudan's red card.

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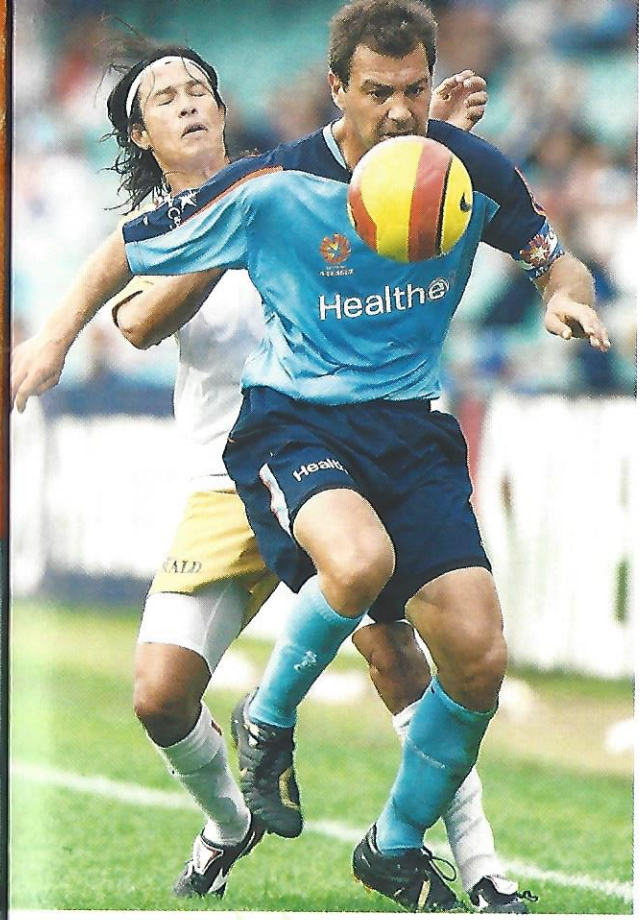

Rudan wins the ball from Jet Milton Rodriguez

SYDNEY FC

How do you prepare on game day?

It's a little bit different when you're away because you're with the rest of the team and not sleeping in your own bed! You prepare differently with the team, for lunch and things like that whereas at home I get up, have breakfast and play around with my little kid... and loosen up a bit. I try not to focus too much on the game.

I like to keep myself relaxed on game day. I feel that that works the best for me. I used to really worry about games when I first started playing but the older you get things happen differently. I'm pretty confident that if the preparations are done in the week then I know that I can go out there and play the way I know I can play.

I turn up at around an hour and a half before the game. Terry likes to get us in 90 minutes before kick-off. That's how he wants it and it was pretty much the same last year as well.

What do you get up to outside of football?

I love a game of golf. Every chance I get to play golf I take it up. Some say that it's a game that annoys you but it really relaxes me, especially when you hit that ball sweetly. I play with my two and a half year old son too. I love spending time with him and mucking around with him.

Is your son showing any signs of being a footballer?

I'm not pushing him but I've got a bunch of balls in the backyard and the first thing he does is push me outside to kick the ball around. He's only two and a half but he definitely enjoys kicking the ball around. If that's what he wants to do then so be it. We'll see how he goes.

Back on golf, do you take on any of your teammates?

There's a few of us there that play. Steve Corica plays, Dave Carney likes to go out for a hit although with his shoulder reconstruction he hasn't hit any balls lately! But he enjoys playing golf and our reserve 'keeper Justin Pasfield doesn't mind a swing as well.

Does it get competitive?

It does... it was good last year. Dwight Yorke used to play with us and a few of us were pretty competitive and we played skins on a few occasions so it was always good to get money off the other boys.

And finally, who's the biggest joker in the side?

Ooh... there's a couple. A couple of the young boys are always joking, they're real characters. Our 'keeper Justin Pasfield and Nik Topor-Stanley – who we call Gumby – they're always doing stupid things and coming out with wise-cracking calls. They always give us a laugh... yeah the two younger boys are the ones that are really out there. ■

BOOM GOALKEEPER **DANNY VUKOVIC** AND HIS MARINERS HAD A DAY TO FORGET LAST TIME THEY PLAYED PERTH. THIS WEEKEND, THEY'RE OUT TO MAKE AMENDS / **JACK SNAPE**

AVENGING GLORY

You lost to Perth 2-0 in round two, do you remember the goals?

o, the first one I was lining up my all and the ref let Simon Colosimo ke the quick free kick and there asn't a goalkeeper in goal. It was etty upsetting, I think I got a yellow rd afterwards. The second goal was e, Stuart Young with a free in the box lley straight past me. We didn't really ay that well that day, it was probably e of our worst performances in the o seasons. When we play them at me we'll be hoping to rectify that.

hose quick free kicks are ways controversial, have you onceded like that before?

h that's the first time. I was pretty set after the game because we had quick free kick stopped by the referee rlier in the match when Simon losimo got a yellow card. Then he's owed this quick free kick to go ahead. vent in and talked to the referee after e game and asked them what was ing on and they explained it to me. other thing I wasn't happy about was at he didn't march the wall back when the first half he did. But again he didn't ve to do that unless the opposition am asks for the wall to be marched

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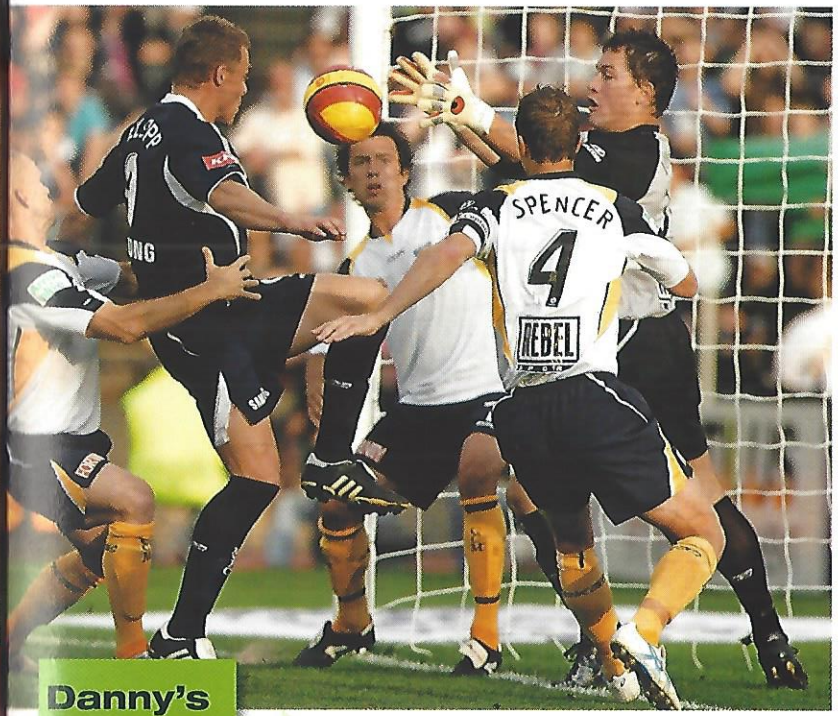

Hitting three figures

You weigh close to 100kg, have you ever gone over the mark?
Yeah there was a point last pre-season when I was 101kg but that was in pre-season. I'm actually weighing in at about 94kg now. I've lost a bit of weight and put on a bit of muscle. It's all down to Andrew Clark, our fitness and weights guru. He's got me fit and ready to go for the second season of the Hyundai A-League.

Danny's current favs

Food: "I'm going through a stage of omelettes. They're something I've never really liked!"
Music: "Sneaky Sound System is the latest album I've got. I like everything, I go through trends. I'll listen to anything."
Movies: "I like Will Ferrell. *Anchorman*, *Wedding Crashers*."
TV: "*Australian Idol* when I can, but it's hard being a footballer and being away from home."

back, that's when he'd have to blow the whistle. Hopefully it's one of those things that you learn from but hopefully I won't be copping a goal like that anytime soon.

What advice can you give to other goalkeepers in the same situation?
The best thing I think is to line the wall up as close to the ball as possible. That way the referee will basically have to march the wall back, which means he has to blow the whistle.

What is your opinion of Perth in general? Who will you be looking out for?
They're a tough team to play against. They're a lot like us where they don't really have the huge names but they work hard for one another. Obviously Simon Colosimo is a good player for them and a dangerous player to be up against. He is their go to man and the guy who starts all their attacks. If we can nullify him we'll be doing well.

Aleks Vrteski did well in goal for the Glory earlier in the season. Do you know much about him?
Yeah I'm spoken to Aleks a little bit and I've actually played him a few times when I've been playing for the [Australian under] 23s and he was in the [under] 20s. What I've seen of him I'm quite impressed with. He's still very young but to be playing regularly while he's young, he's obviously not daunted out there.

What about other young goalkeepers around the country?
There are a few guys around my age who don't get recognised as much because they don't get as much game time but I've trained with a lot of them. Justin Pasfield at Sydney FC is their reserve goalkeeper and he's a great 'keeper. Unfortunately he's up against Clint Bolton who's on fire at the moment. Then you go to Newcastle and Ben

"THEY'RE A TOUGH TEAM TO PLAY AGAINST. THEY'RE LIKE US WHERE THEY DON'T HAVE THE HUGE NAMES, BUT THEY WORK HARD FOR ONE ANOTHER."

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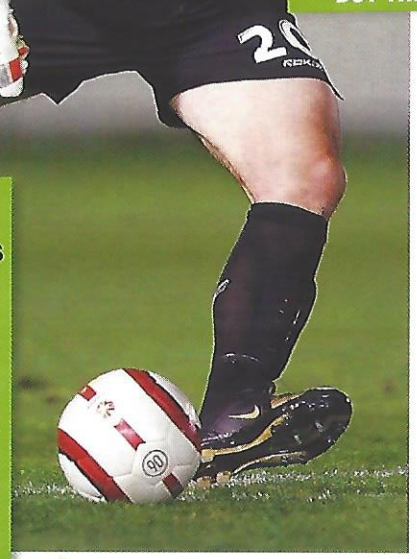


Kennedy who's going really well, then at Queensland there's Liam Reddy and Tommy Willis.

Do you pay much attention to what's written in the media?

I don't like to read into it too much, just *The Full 90* magazine on game day is probably the most reading I do when it comes to that sort of thing. It calms the nerves before the game.

What areas of your game are you trying hard to improve?

Probably my goal kicks in general, being more consistent with my kicks, and communicating with my defence a bit more. You have to be concentrating for the whole game. There are times in the game where I don't talk as much as I should.

How is the fitness divided between the outfield players and the goalkeepers at the Mariners?

The boys tend to do a lot of running. That's one of the reasons I became a goalkeeper because I don't like to run. I try to stay away from the running as much as possible. We do still get worked very hard in goal. There are certain drills that John Crawley puts us through that I hate doing but I know I benefit from so I do them.

What's the worst?

The Monday morning high balls session. [Crawley] gets the hurdles out and he makes us jump all over the place and you don't get much of a rest. That's my most hated session, the Monday morning session. At the end of the day though I know I'm going to benefit from doing it so I don't mind doing it. Much.

KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY

DELAIDE UNITED'S **RICHIE ALAGICH** ISN'T HE ONLY MEMBER OF HIS FAMILY TO MAKE NAME AS A TOP-CLASS FOOTBALLER. HIS STER **DI** IS A DAB HAND AT THE BEAUTIFUL AME TOO! / **NADAV SHLEZINGER**

HEAD TO HEAD

the first eason of e Hyundai -League, nited had favourable cord against e Knights, cording two ns and a aw. In round o this season ough, the nights upset osmina's men as Malik Buari owered home winner.

When it comes to producing siblings who play top-class football, Adelaide has done its fair share. The Vidmars and the Aloisis aren't the only pairings.

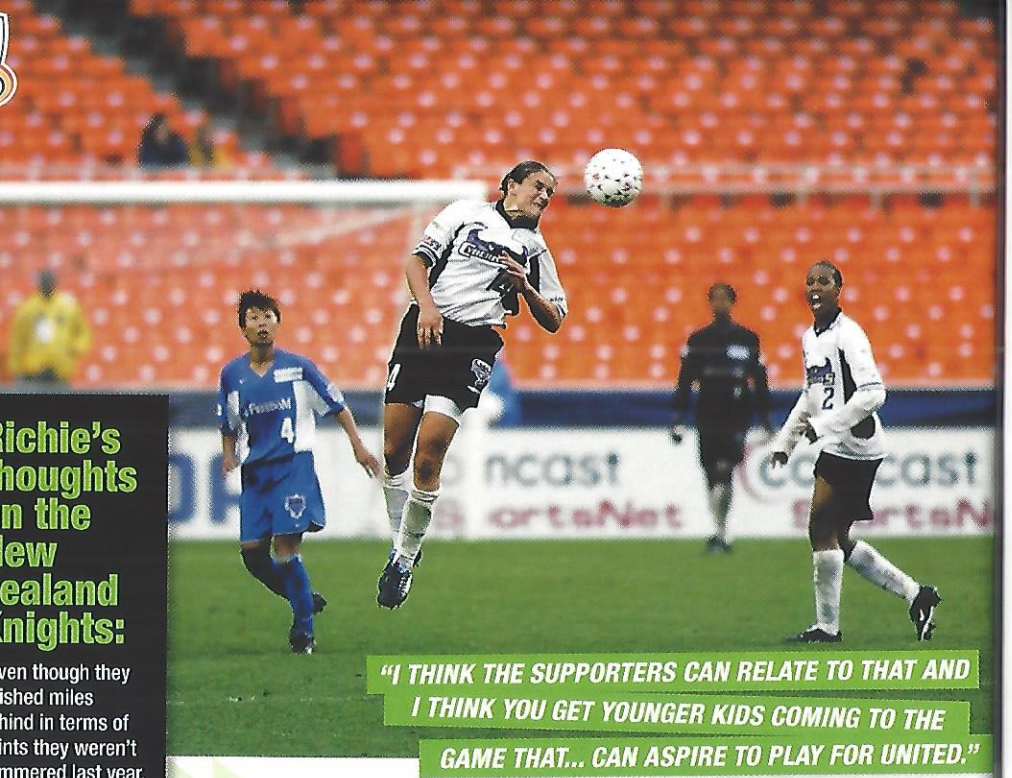
Adelaide United defender Richie Alagich and his younger sister Dianne – who plays in defence for the Matildas – are another duo who have reached the top of the game.

Raised in the beach-side suburb of Semaphore South, all five Alagich kids were encouraged to play sports. Chris, the second oldest, recently returned from Hungary where he represented Australia at the world kayaking championships. In the middle, Kerry, still plays football too; while the youngest, Colin plays for Port Adelaide Pirates in the South Australian Premier League.

As the oldest Alagich, Richie reveals how competitive things got. "Down the road was a big oval where we used to play and kick the crap out of each other!" he says with a laugh. "So it was very very competitive and quite often there were one, two maybe three kids who stormed off back home."

The sporting pedigree in the family is immense. Di even juggled scholarships at the South Australian Institute of Sport for football and kayaking, before having to make a choice. "I thought that I was going to get further in my soccer career than I would have in my kayaking, and I loved it a lot more and it just came naturally to me," she says.

Richie competed in athletics, basketball and cricket. He also wanted a crack at Aussie Rules but was unable to because it always clashed with his school football. Aussie Rules' loss was clearly Adelaide United's gain. Although



"I THINK THE SUPPORTERS CAN RELATE TO THAT AND I THINK YOU GET YOUNGER KIDS COMING TO THE GAME THAT... CAN ASPIRE TO PLAY FOR UNITED."

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ven though they ished miles hind in terms of ints they weren't mmered last year. ey've improved. ink Salley's made ig difference to em in midfield and hard Johnson well. They're perienced players o have brought ot to the squad. ey turn each me into a battle. ey're competitive. ay take a little ile for them all gel, but they'll be mpetitive."

it's been a journey of sorts, Richie is happy to be back where it all began.

Like his siblings Richie, 32, started playing junior football at Port Adelaide. He also went on to become a member of the Qantas Young Socceroos and in 1993, got his start in the old NSL playing for West Adelaide. After six seasons with the Sharks, he headed interstate for a couple of seasons each with South Melbourne and the Brisbane Strikers. He returned to his home town in 2003 when Adelaide United was formed, was named Club Champion in their first season and was an integral member last season.

Richie's return to Adelaide is reflective of the strong ties the club has to its community. Twelve players in the squad are home-grown, meaning they have more locals in their squad than is typical of most Hyundai A-League sides.

"I think the supporters can relate to that and I think you get younger kids coming to the game that can then say, 'alright I can aspire to play for Adelaide United'," he says.

"I'd never thought it would happen, to be able to play in front of 15,000 people," Richie says. "It was all South Australian fans, too. I didn't think I would see that in my playing career."

For Di, 27, her career has also been a journey. She joined Adelaide Sensation for the first season of the Women's National Soccer League in 1997 – the same year she made her senior international debut, before tearing her anterior cruciate ligament. Di worked her way back to fitness and joined the San Jose CyberRays when the national league was formed in the USA. Unfortunately, she tore her other ACL in her first season and spent another extended period on the sidelines. Again, she worked her way back and played three seasons in the highly-rated league, leaving when it folded in 2003.

Injury hasn't always stood in the way though, and she is the only Matilda to have played every minute at the 1999 and 2003 World Cups and the 2000 Olympics.

"Looking back at my career I've missed a lot of games in... but the big games, the World Cups and Olympics, I've always been there. I've been happy with how the major tournaments have gone," she says.

Di is now living in Sydney where she works for Customs. She trains with NSW Institute of Sport, who play against men's teams mid-week.

Despite living in different cities, Richie and Di are still in close contact. Di heads to Aussie Stadium whenever Sydney FC host Adelaide United, and her brother had the chance to watch her this year as the Matildas played all their World Cup qualifiers in Adelaide. Richie and his wife Melissa even travelled to the USA to watch Di at the CyberRays.

As two defenders, the pair's similarities on the field aren't lost on them. "I think she's a lot more aggressive, to be honest," Richie says. "But, I think we're both consistent and have good work ethics, so we share those traits." ■

Matildas' fixtures

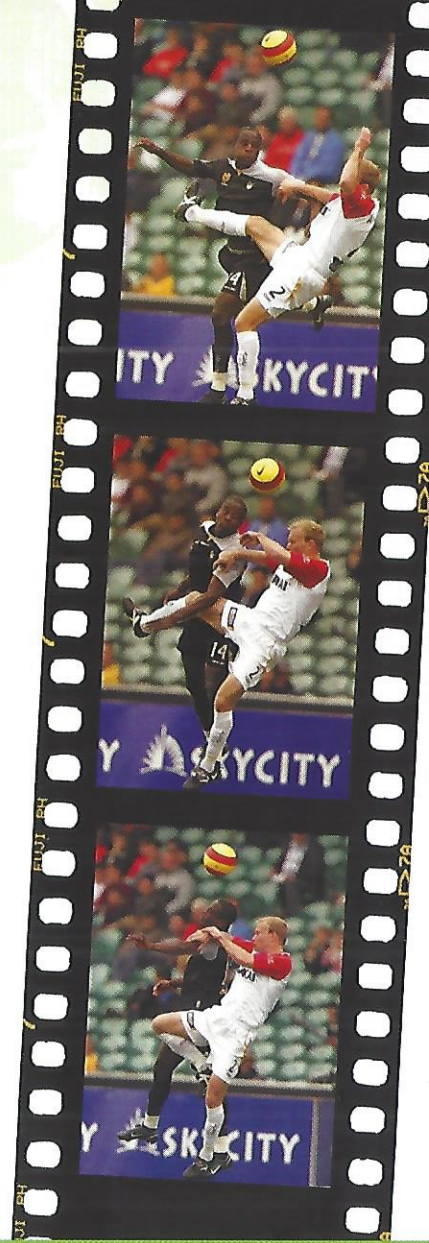
The Matildas' next assignment comes at the Peace Cup in October. The Cup is a South Korean initiative designed to help realise peace through football.

The success of the 2003 and 2005 men's tournaments, won by the Netherland's PSV Eindhoven and England's Tottenham Hotspur, prompted the organisers to create a women's equivalent involving national teams.

The tournament is divided into two groups, with the two group winners facing off in the final.

Australia's group matches are against:

- North Korea in Kimhae on 29 October
- USA in Chonan on 31 October
- Denmark in Suwon on 2nd November



ROTHERS AND SISTERS

er top Aussie bro/ combos include:

Reddys: ensland Roar's t-stopper Liam is orming well. His younger sister Bianca plays netball for the Adelaide Thunderbirds.

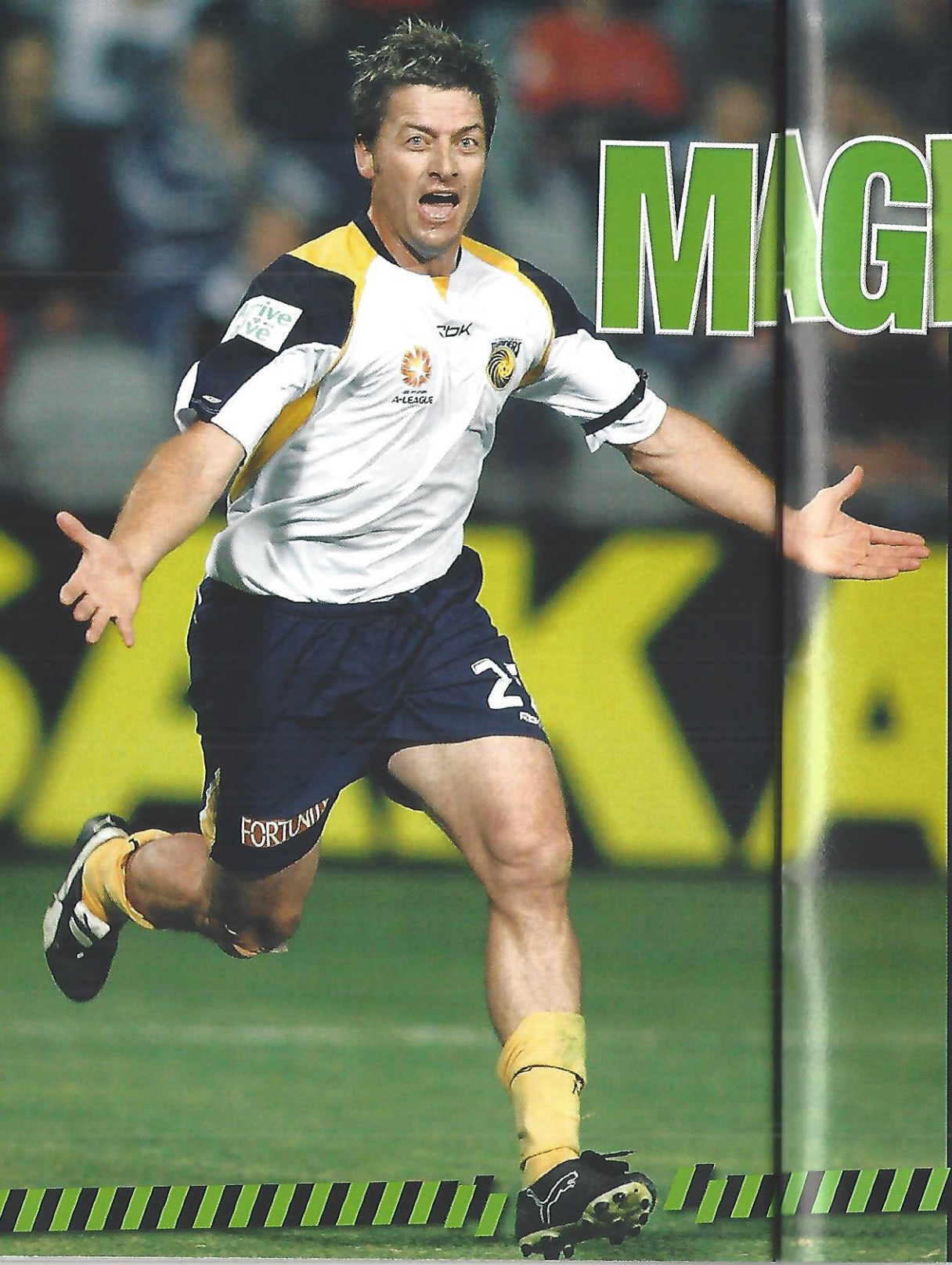
The Brights: The siblings, from Cooma in NSW, work together – Ben is Torah's coach, and helped her to fifth in the snowboard halfpipe at the 2006 Winter Olympics.

The Hewitts: Like the Alagichs, the Hewitts hail from South Australia. Lleyton made it to world number one on the tour in 2001 and has won the US Open and Wimbledon. Sister Jaslyn has been playing on the women's tour since 1999.

The Clarkes: Georgie and Tim Clarke from Victoria, were both middle distance runners in their younger years. Twenty two year-old Georgie continued with athletics, and came first in the 5000m at the 2005 Australian nationals. Tim switched, and has played 86 games for Hawthorn in the AFL.

The Wilsons: We know this one's a bit of a stretch(!) but sports journalism is related, and siblings Rebecca and Jim have both made a name for themselves in this field.

Rebecca is well known for her opinions and brother Jim presented sport on Channel 7 from 1992 to 2004 and has since been involved with Fox Footy Channel, and radio and newspapers in Melbourne.



MAGNIFICENT MORI

THE GREATEST GOALSCORER IN AUSSIE CLUB HISTORY IS BACK / **AIDAN ORMOND**

There are strikers, forwards, poachers, hit men, target men, net-busters, net freaks, goal-sneaks, goal-sniffers, goal-machines and goal-merchants. But there's only one Damian Mori.

It's a simple statistic. Mori's goal tally is a staggering 233 goals over three magical decades, four states and in two Australian national leagues. By the time you read this, it may even be more.

"Frogger", as he's affectionately known, towers over all others in the local goalscorers' union – and not just by a few goals, he's a chasm-like 96 goals clear of second place "Rocket" Rod Brown.

To put Mori's achievement into context, think about this: in the current Hyundai A-League format, a player would have to average 15 goals a season, every year, for 15 seasons just to get close to the man himself.

What's more, had it not been for a barren spell in the German Bundesliga during the height of Mori's goalscoring rampage 10 years ago, his goal figure would surely be even higher.

Rise of a star

When a bandy-legged, powerfully built youngster made the rounds of Melbourne's NSL clubs in the late 80s and early 90s, it was no harbinger for what was to unfold. Stints at South Melbourne, Sunshine Georgies and Melbourne Knights yielded a respectable 20 goals in 75 appearances.

However, Zoran Matic, the Adelaide City coach, saw something in the young player and brought Mori to the City of Churches in 1992. The wily fox began building a dynasty around Mori, Alex Tobin and Milan Ivanovic. But, as Mori recalls, "At first, I was played in

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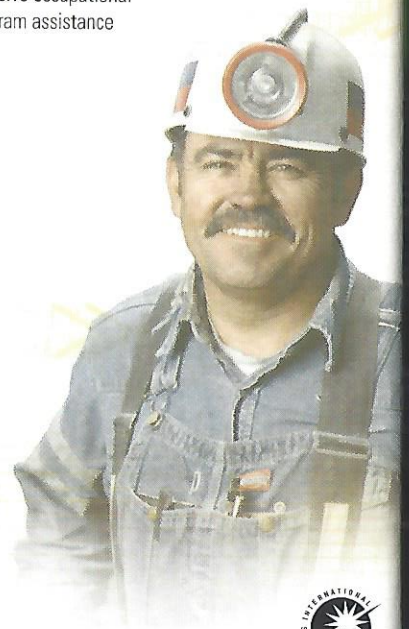

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THE AMAZING MORI

Club level: 238 goals (up to round 7 of the current season).

Socceroos: 29 goals

Best club season: 1995/96: 31 goals in 36 matches

Best Socceroo haul: Five goals (versus Solomon Isles in 1997)

defence and midfield. Everywhere but as striker!"

After Mori got his chance up front, he scored 13 times in 31 appearances in his freshman year in Adelaide. Over the next three seasons, 94 outings for the Zebras saw Mori on the scorers' sheet a further 59 times.

"It's so much easier to score when you have good players around you," says a modest Mori. One of those goals came in the 1994 grand final – a Polaris-like missile from 35 yards at Olympic Park that goes down as maybe the greatest ever grand final goal.

"When you are that far out you just hit it. I guess I got lucky," Mori said at the time.

"He was banging them in for fun," recalls City's defender and former Qantas Socceroo Captain Alex Tobin. "We had Goran Lozanovski on the right supplying the crosses... you could put money on Damian scoring."

With Mori's reputation at club and Socceroo level – he made his national team debut in 1992 – a move overseas was the obvious next step. Or was it?

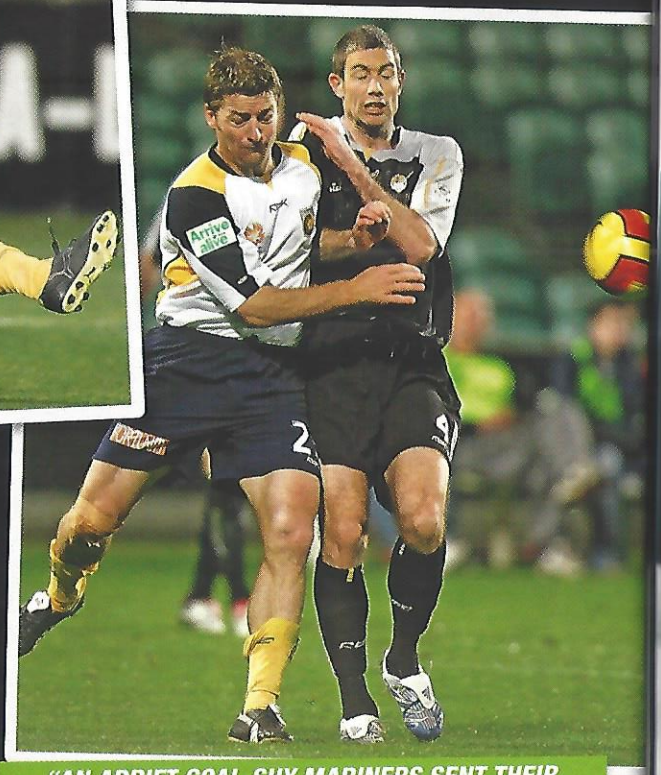
At his new club Borussia Moenchengladbach, Mori was not first-choice striker. He had four other forwards to compete with (such as Swedish star Martin Dahlin). "Even the training balls were pumped up like rocks," recalls Mori of his 1996 stint.

He never settled and made only six appearances for the Germans before returning home to the grateful City faithful at Hindmarsh. "It was a learning experience particularly with the quality of players Borussia had," says Mori.

A subsequent 56 goals in three seasons earned the striker a big-money (a reputed $130,000 per season) move in 2000 to then-glammed up Perth Glory. Unlike Borussia, this proved much more successful.

Glory days

Teaming up with Bobby Despotovski,



pair ran amok, helping shape
y as the undisputed kings of local
ball. Three grand finals, two trophies
77 goals in 108 matches for Mori –
as a golden era for the purple shirts.
We suited each other," says Mori of
potovski. "He likes to play deeper
I like to play on the last man."
ori was surprisingly omitted from
naugural Perth Glory Hyundai A-
gue squad in 2005. However, a few
ths into the season and an SOS
a struggling Glory to Mori – who
been player-coaching in South
tralia – gave new fans a chance
ee a genuine craftsman at work.
even goals in a struggling side
f that the legend hadn't lost his
h. He returned to South Australia
e off-season. But an adrift, goal-
Central Coast Mariners sent their
SOS in September this year, and
couldn't resist another shot at
enting 'keepers.
With our problems in front of
, Damian was the obvious
ce," says old mate Tobin, the
's' development manager. And
ori's first game, it was the 36
-old's run that saw him brought
n for the game's decisive penalty
in New Zealand.
hen, inevitably, magically, in his
rn to Hindmarsh the following
k, Mori scored against the side
apparently didn't want him:

"AN ADRIFT GOAL-SHY MARINERS SENT THEIR OWN SOS THIS YEAR AND MORI COULDN'T RESIST ANOTHER SHOT AT TORMENTING 'KEEPERS."

Adelaide United. Will he inflict similar pain on tonight's visitors Perth Glory?

"The secret of his success," reflects Socceroo legend Tobin, "is that he is determined, focused and consistent... In the current Hyundai A-League format, beating Mori's goalscoring record simply isn't going to happen."

While the new Mariner's national team career never reached the heights it perhaps should have (the overseas Socceroo era clearly went against him), he still deserves his place as an Aussie football immortal.

When asked about his 233 goal haul, Mori seems surprised. "I don't keep count... but it's alright, isn't it?" It's more than alright, Damian, it's magnificent. ■

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Fixtures 2006-07

ROUND	FIXTURE	SCORE	VENUE	KICK-OFF
Fri 25 Aug 06	Melbourne Victory vs Adelaide United	2-0	Olympic Park, Melbourne	8.00pm
Sat 26 Aug 06	Queensland Roar vs Perth Glory	3-0	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	7.00pm
Sun 27 Aug 06	New Zealand Knights vs Newcastle Jets	0-0	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	5.00pm
Sun 27 Aug 06	Sydney FC vs Central Coast Mariners	1-0	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	5.00pm
Fri 1 Sep 06	Newcastle Jets vs Queensland Roar	2-3	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	8.00pm
Sat 2 Sep 06	New Zealand Knights vs Adelaide United	1-0	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	12.30pm
Sat 2 Sep 06	Melbourne Victory vs Sydney FC	3-2	Telstra Dome, Melbourne	7.00pm
Sun 3 Sep 06	Perth Glory vs Central Coast Mariners	2-0	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	3.00pm
Fri 8 Sep 06	Adelaide United vs Newcastle Jets	5-1	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	7.30pm
Sat 9 Sep 06	Central Coast Mariners vs Queensland Roar	0-0	Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	7.00pm
Sun 10 Sep 06	New Zealand Knights vs Melbourne Victory	0-3	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	12.30pm
Sun 10 Sep 06	Perth Glory vs Sydney FC	1-1	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	3.00pm
Fri 15 Sep 06	Queensland Roar vs New Zealand Knights	5-0	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	8.00pm
Sat 16 Sep 06	Adelaide United vs Perth Glory	3-0	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	6.30pm
Sun 17 Sep 06	Sydney FC vs Newcastle Jets	2-2	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	3.00pm
Sun 17 Sep 06	Melbourne Victory vs Central Coast Mariners	1-0	Olympic Park, Melbourne	5.00pm
Thu 21 Sep 06	New Zealand Knights vs Sydney FC	0-1	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	8.00pm
Fri 22 Sep 06	Queensland Roar vs Adelaide United	0-0	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	8.00pm
Sat 23 Sep 06	Central Coast Mariners vs Newcastle Jets	1-1	Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	7.00pm
Sun 24 Sep 06	Perth Glory vs Melbourne Victory	1-2	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	3.00pm
Thu 28 Sep 06	New Zealand Knights vs Central Coast Mariners	0-1	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	8.00pm
Fri 29 Sep 06	Newcastle Jets vs Perth Glory	0-3	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	8.00pm
Sun 1 Oct 06	Melbourne Victory vs Queensland Roar	4-1	Telstra Dome, Melbourne	5.00pm
Mon 2 Oct 06	Adelaide United vs Sydney FC	1-4	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	4.30pm
Fri 6 Oct 06	Adelaide United vs Central Coast Mariners	3-1	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	7.30pm
Fri 6 Oct 06	Perth Glory vs New Zealand Knights	1-0	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	8.00pm
Sun 8 Oct 06	Sydney FC vs Queensland Roar	1-1	Aussie Stadium, Sydney	3.00pm
Sun 8 Oct 06	Newcastle Jets vs Melbourne Victory	0-2	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	5.00pm
Fri 13 Oct 06	Central Coast Mariners vs Sydney FC	3-1	Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	8.00pm
Sat 14 Oct 06	Newcastle Jets vs New Zealand Knights	3-0	EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	7.00pm
Sun 15 Oct 06	Melbourne Victory vs Adelaide United	0-1	Telstra Dome, Melbourne	5.00pm
Sun 15 Oct 06	Perth Glory vs Queensland Roar	1-2	Members Equity Stadium, Perth	5.00pm
Fri 20 Oct 06	Central Coast Mariners vs Perth Glory		Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	8.00pm
Sat 21 Oct 06	Sydney FC vs Melbourne Victory		Aussie Stadium, Sydney	7.00pm
Sun 22 Oct 06	Queensland Roar vs Newcastle Jets		Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	5.00pm
Sun 22 Oct 06	Adelaide United vs New Zealand Knights		Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	6.30pm
Fri 27 Oct 06	New Zealand Knights vs Melbourne Victory		North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	8.00pm
Fri 27 Oct 06	Newcastle Jets vs Adelaide United		EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	8.00pm
Sat 28 Oct 06	Queensland Roar vs Central Coast Mariners		Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	7.00pm
Sun 29 Oct 06	Sydney FC vs Perth Glory		Aussie Stadium, Sydney	5.00pm
Fri 3 Nov 06	Melbourne Victory vs Central Coast Mariners		Telstra Dome, Melbourne	8.00pm
Sat 4 Nov 06	Newcastle Jets vs Sydney FC		EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	7.00pm
Sun 5 Nov 06	New Zealand Knights vs Queensland Roar		North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	5.00pm
Sun 5 Nov 06	Adelaide United vs Perth Glory		Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	4.30pm

ROUND	FIXTURE	SCORE	VENUE	KICK-OFF
ROUND 12	Thu 9 Nov 06 Melbourne Victory vs Perth Glory		Telstra Dome, Melbourne	8.00pm
	Fri 10 Nov 06 Sydney FC vs New Zealand Knights		Aussie Stadium, Sydney	8.00pm
	Sat 11 Nov 06 Queensland Roar vs Adelaide United		Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	7.00pm
	Sun 12 Nov 06 Newcastle Jets vs Central Coast Mariners		EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	5.00pm
ROUND 13	Fri 17 Nov 06 Queensland Roar vs Melbourne Victory		Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	7.00pm
	Sat 18 Nov 06 Perth Glory vs Newcastle Jets		Members Equity Stadium, Perth	5.00pm
	Sun 19 Nov 06 New Zealand Knights vs Central Coast Mariners		North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	5.00pm
	Sun 19 Nov 06 Sydney FC vs Adelaide United		Aussie Stadium, Sydney	5.00pm
ROUND 14	Fri 24 Nov 06 Sydney FC vs Queensland Roar		Aussie Stadium, Sydney	8.00pm
	Sat 25 Nov 06 Central Coast Mariners vs Adelaide United		Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	7.00pm
	Sun 26 Nov 06 Melbourne Victory vs Newcastle Jets		Olympic Park, Melbourne	5.00pm
	Sun 26 Nov 06 Perth Glory vs New Zealand Knights		Members Equity Stadium, Perth	4.00pm
ROUND 15	Fri 1 Dec 06 Adelaide United vs Melbourne Victory		Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	7.30pm
	Sat 2 Dec 06 Queensland Roar vs Perth Glory		Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	7.00pm
	Sun 3 Dec 06 New Zealand Knights vs Newcastle Jets		North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	5.00pm
	Sun 3 Dec 06 Central Coast Mariners vs Sydney FC		Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	5.00pm
ROUND 16	Thu 7 Dec 06 Queensland Roar vs Newcastle Jets		Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	7.00pm
	Fri 8 Dec 06 Melbourne Victory vs Sydney FC		Telstra Dome, Melbourne	8.00pm
	Sun 10 Dec 06 Central Coast Mariners vs Perth Glory		Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	5.00pm
	Sun 10 Dec 06 Adelaide United vs New Zealand Knights		Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	6.30pm
ROUND 17	Thu 14 Dec 06 Sydney FC vs Perth Glory		Aussie Stadium, Sydney	8.00pm
	Fri 15 Dec 06 Adelaide United vs Newcastle Jets		Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	7.30pm
	Sat 16 Dec 06 Central Coast Mariners vs Queensland Roar		Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	7.00pm
	Sun 17 Dec 06 Melbourne Victory vs New Zealand Knights		Olympic Park, Melbourne	7.00pm
CHRISTMAS BREAK				
ROUND 18	Thu 28 Dec 06 Perth Glory vs Adelaide United		Members Equity Stadium, Perth	7.00pm
	Fri 29 Dec 06 New Zealand Knights vs Queensland Roar		North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	8.00pm
	Sun 31 Dec 06 Central Coast Mariners vs Melbourne Victory		Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	6.00pm
	Mon 1 Jan 07 Newcastle Jets vs Sydney FC		EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	6.00pm
ROUND 19	Thu 4 Jan 07 Adelaide United vs Queensland Roar		Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	7.30pm
	Fri 5 Jan 07 Newcastle Jets vs Central Coast Mariners		EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	8.00pm
	Sun 7 Jan 07 Sydney FC vs New Zealand Knights		Aussie Stadium, Sydney	7.00pm
	Sun 7 Jan 07 Perth Glory vs Melbourne Victory		Members Equity Stadium, Perth	6.00pm
ROUND 20	Thu 11 Jan 07 Central Coast Mariners vs New Zealand Knights		Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	8.00pm
	Fri 12 Jan 07 Melbourne Victory vs Queensland Roar		Telstra Dome, Melbourne	8.00pm
	Sun 14 Jan 07 Adelaide United vs Sydney FC		Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide	6.30pm
	Sun 14 Jan 07 Perth Glory vs Newcastle Jets		Members Equity Stadium, Perth	6.00pm
ROUND 21	Fri 19 Jan 07 Newcastle Jets vs Melbourne Victory		EnergyAustralia Stadium, Newcastle	8.00pm
	Sat 20 Jan 07 Queensland Roar vs Sydney FC		Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane	7.00pm
	Sun 21 Jan 07 New Zealand Knights vs Perth Glory		North Harbour Stadium, Auckland	7.00pm
	Sun 21 Jan 07 Central Coast Mariners vs Adelaide United		Bluetongue Central Coast Stadium, Gosford	7.00pm

FINALS

WEEK 1	**SEMI-FINAL 1st LEG**	**WEEK 3**	**PRELIMINARY FINAL**
Fri 26 Jan 07 or Sun 28 Jan 07	1 vs 2	Sun 11 Feb 07	Loser (1 v 2) vs Winner (3 v 4)
Fri 26 Jan 07 or Sun 28 Jan 07	3 vs 4		
		WEEK 4	**GRAND FINAL**
WEEK 2	**SEMI-FINAL 2nd LEG**	Sun 18 Feb 07	Winner (1 v 2) vs Winner (Preliminary final)
Fri 2 Feb 07 or Sun 4 Feb 07	1 vs 2		
Fri 2 Feb 07 or Sun 4 Feb 07	3 vs 4		

ALL TIMES LOCAL AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

NEXT WEEK

HECKIN' IN ON CECCERS
ET UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL ITH SYDNEY FC'S DEFENDER LVIN CECCOLI

PASE DILEVSKI
UEENSLAND'S GOAL-SCORING IDFIELDER TALKS TO *THE FULL O* AHEAD OF MEETING THE ENTRAL COAST MARINERS

HE MAN THEY CALL POCKET
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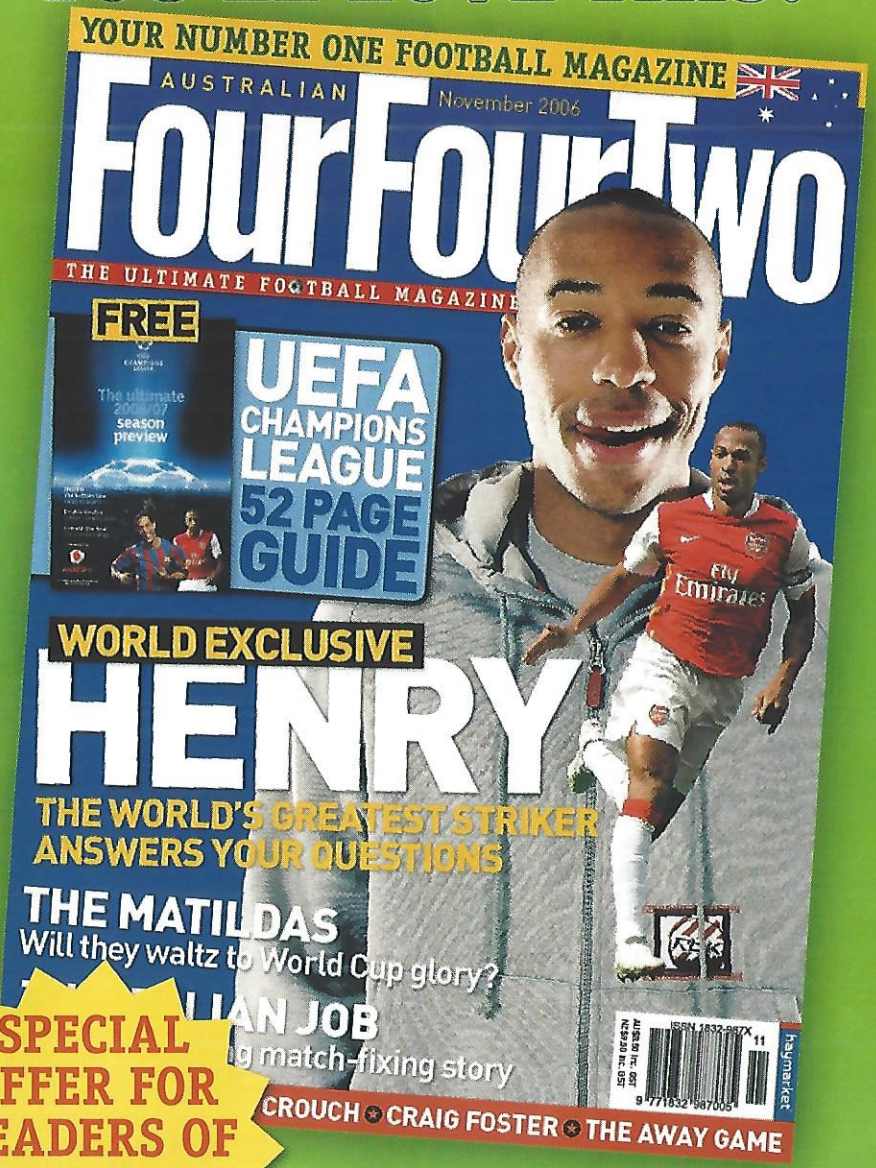

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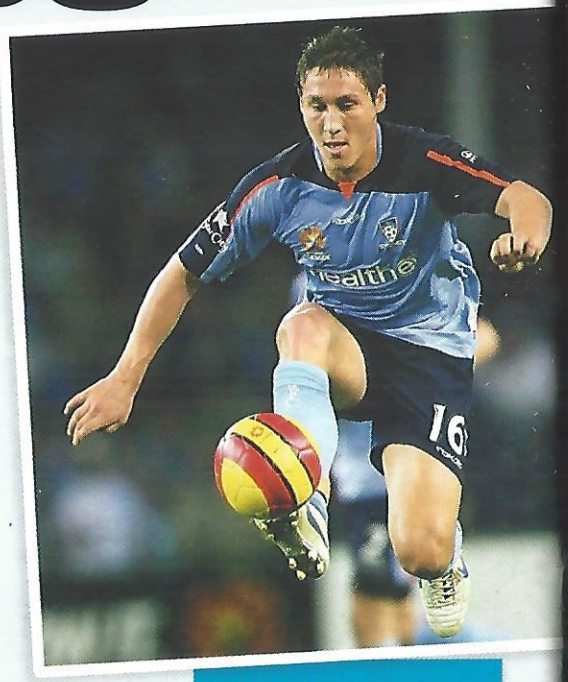
N MY OWN WORDS

SYDNEY FC'S **MARK MILLIGAN** ALWAYS WANTED TO PLAY FOOTBALL, BUT GETS EMBARRASSED WHEN PEOPLE ASK HIM ABOUT IT
/ **PAUL HANSFORD**



Mark Milligan.
for Sydney FC.
up in Bankstown.
kid I wanted to play football.
my family.
e my mum crazy.
eating any foods.
k I'm a good singer.
embarrassed when people talk
ne about football.
I never have to grow up.
rst memory is my go-kart.
opeless at getting places on time.
mise I'll never leave home!
ds say I am lazy.
I'm not playing football I rest.

INSTANT EXPERT

- **Number** 16
- **Date of birth** 4 August 1985
- **Weight** 78 kg
- **Height** 178 cm
- **Position** Defensive Midfielder

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